



SAFETY FIRST

Seahawks soar over Broncos 43-8 in Super Bowl XLVII

Seattle Seahawks' Walter Thurmond (28) reacts after a safety during the first half of the NFL Super Bowl XLVIII football game against the Denver Broncos Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in East Rutherford, N.J.

Associated Press
Read more in Aruba Today's Sports on Page 18



**GROUNDHOG PHIL
PREDICTS LONGER
WINTER WEATHER**

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**PHILIP SEYMOUR
HOFFMAN FOUND
DEAD IN NY CITY**

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Israel criticizes Kerry boycott remarks

ISABEL KERSHNER

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JERUSALEM - Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel and some of his senior ministers on Sunday strongly criticized those who are threatening a boycott of Israel over its policies toward the Palestinians. Their remarks were a sharp retort to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, who warned a day earlier that the risk of boycotts would intensify should his current Middle East peace effort fail.

In a swift response to the Is-

concede the vital interests of the State of Israel, especially the security of Israel's citizens. For both of these reasons, threats to boycott the State of Israel will not achieve their goal."

Israel's minister of strategic affairs, Yuval Steinitz, was more direct in his criticism of Kerry. He told Israel Radio on Sunday that Kerry's remarks were "hurtful," "unfair" and "intolerable" and said, "Israel cannot be expected to negotiate with a gun to its head."

The dispute clearly

description of actions undertaken by others that he has always opposed."

The statement concluded with the admonishment: "Secretary Kerry has always expected opposition and difficult moments in the process, but he also expects all parties to accurately portray his record and statements."

Speaking Saturday at the Munich Security Conference about the risks of a failure of the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, Kerry said: "Today's status quo



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu chairs the weekly cabinet meeting in Jerusalem, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014. (AP Photo/Gali Tibbon)

raeli criticism, the U.S. State Department said that Kerry had always opposed calls for boycotts and expected "all parties to accurately portray his record and statements." The heated exchange comes as the Obama administration prepares to complete and present a "framework" accord in the coming weeks, which would be a first step toward a comprehensive agreement and serve as a basis for a continuation of negotiations. "Attempts to impose a boycott on the State of Israel are immoral and unjust," Netanyahu said at the start of the weekly Cabinet meeting here. "Moreover," he continued, "they will not achieve their goal. First, they cause the Palestinians to adhere to their intransigent positions and thus push peace further away. Second, no pressure will cause me to

touched raw nerves on both sides. Soon after the Israeli remarks were broadcast, Jen Psaki, a State Department spokeswoman, issued an unusually pointed statement.

"Secretary Kerry has a proud record of over three decades of steadfast support for Israel's security and well-being, including staunch opposition to boycotts," she said, adding: "At the Munich Security Conference yesterday, he spoke forcefully in defense of Israel's interests, as he consistently has throughout his public life. In response to a question about the peace process, he also described some well-known and previously stated facts about what is at stake for both sides if this process fails, including the consequences for the Palestinians. His only reference to a boycott was a

absolutely, to a certainty, I promise you 100 percent, cannot be maintained. It's not sustainable. It's illusionary." He added, "You see for Israel, there's an increasing delegitimization campaign that has been building up. People are very sensitive to it. There are talks of boycotts and other kinds of things." Concern is growing in Israel about the growing boycott movement against its companies. Some European supermarket chains are already shunning agricultural produce from Jewish settlements in the West Bank. PGGM, a large Dutch pension fund management company, recently decided to withdraw all its investments from Israel's five largest banks because they have branches in West Bank settlements or are involved in financing settlement construction. □



Rescuers search victims of the eruption of Mount Sinabung in Suka Meriah, North Sumatra, Indonesia, Saturday, Feb. 2, 2014. Mount Sinabung erupted Saturday killing more than a dozen of people. (AP Photo/Binsar Bakkara)

Death toll climbs after major Indonesia volcano's eruption

JOE COCHRANE

© 2014 New York Times

JAKARTA, Indonesia - The death toll from the sudden eruption of an active volcano on Indonesia's Sumatra Island rose to 15, officials said Sunday, as toxic clouds of hot ash hampered search and rescue teams looking for more victims and survivors.

Among the victims from the volcanic activity Saturday in North Sumatra province were local residents checking on their homes, a journalist and a group of high school students and their teacher, said Yopie Haryadi, a spokesman for Indonesia's National Search and Rescue Agency.

The teams resumed searching Sunday but were forced to stop and take cover when sirens activated to warn that the area around the volcano, Mount Sinabung, was not safe. One of three people who were injured during Saturday's eruptions died in a hospital, Yopie said. Officials have warned that the volcano could erupt again and that the death toll could rise because of people ignoring warnings and returning to their homes.

The bodies of the first 14 victims were recovered Saturday, Yopie said.

"No one is reported missing, but we don't know for sure," he said. "Sometimes people can come and go to check on their homes. We will try to search again, but we have to wait until the situation is clear, given the hot clouds."

He said the first 14 victims were found in the village of Suka Meriah, which lies within a 3-mile exclusion zone around the volcano's crater. The high school students were in the disaster area distributing aid on behalf of the Indonesian Christian Students Movement, according to a local news reporter at the scene.

Around 30,000 people have been evacuated from the area in the weeks after Mount Sinabung resumed erupting in November.

In January, the volcano was erupting dozens of times a day, but it had quieted in recent days.

On Friday, local authorities in North Sumatra allowed nearly 14,000 people living outside the danger zone to return home after volcanic activity decreased, said Parlindungan Harahap, a reporter for Sumut Pos, the newspaper in the provincial capital, Medan. Others living close to the peak have been returning home over the past four months despite the dangers.

On Sunday afternoon, officials from the National Board for Disaster Management appeared on national television to deny reports that the agency had authorized evacuees to return home, saying they had placed warning notices and posted guards at access points to Mount Sinabung's slopes. □

Rep. Ryan: Immigration legislation unlikely in 2014

PHILIP ELLIOTT

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Days after House Republicans unveiled a roadmap for an overhaul of the nation's broken immigration system, one of its backers said legislation is unlikely to pass during this election year. Rep. Paul Ryan said distrust of President Barack Obama runs so deep in his party that he's skeptical

didates. In 2012, Obama won re-election with the backing of 71 percent of Hispanic voters and 73 percent of Asian voters. The issue is important to both blocs.

Republicans have preemptively been trying to blame the White House for immigration legislation's failure, even before a House bill comes together. House Majority Leader Eric Can-

tor said "there's a lot of distrust of this administration in implanting the law." And Republican Sen. Marco Rubio last week warned that distrust of Obama would trump the desire to find a solution for the estimated 11 million people living in the United States illegally. "We just don't think government will enforce the law anyway," Rubio said, recounting conversations

he's had with fellow Republicans.

House Republicans are pushing a piecemeal approach to immigration that puts a priority on security before considering a pathway for those here illegally to earn citizenship. That strategy runs counter to a comprehensive bill, passed through the Senate seven months ago with bipartisan support that includes a long and difficult pathway to citizenship.

The White House, meanwhile returned to its position that any legislation must include a way for those here illegally to earn citizenship and that the system cannot divide Americans into two classes — citizens and noncitizens.

"We ought to see a pathway to citizenship for people," White House chief of staff Denis McDonough said Sunday. "We don't want to have a permanent separation of classes or two permanent different classes of Americans in this country."

Last week, Obama suggested that he's open to a legal status for immigration that falls short of citizenship, hinting he could find common ground with

House Republicans.

"I'm going to do everything I can in the coming months to see if we can get this over the finish line," Obama said Friday.

Obama's flexibility was a clear indication of the president's desire to secure an elusive legislative achievement before voters decide whether to hand him even more opposition in Congress. Republicans are expected to maintain their grip on the House and have a legitimate shot at grabbing the majority in the Senate.

McDonough said the White House remains optimistic that legislation that includes citizenship could reach the president's desk: "We feel pretty good that we'll get a bill done this year."

Not so, countered Ryan, the Republican's vice presidential nominee in 2012.

"Here's the issue that all Republicans agree on: We don't trust the president to enforce the law," he added.

Ryan spoke to ABC's "This Week." Cantor was interviewed on CBS' "Face the Nation." McDonough appeared on NBC's "Meet the Press" and CBS. □



House Budget Committee Chairman Rep. Paul Ryan, center, shakes hands with attendees during a San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce event, Thursday, Jan. 23, 2014, in San Antonio. Ryan said House Republicans will tackle immigration reform in pieces rather than the Senate's comprehensive approach. (AP Photo/Eric Gay)

the Republican-led House would pass any immigration measure. He said a plan that puts security first could only pass if lawmakers believe the administration would enforce it — an unlikely prospect given Republicans' deep opposition to Obama.

"This isn't a trust-but-verify, this is a verify-then-trust approach," Ryan said.

Last week, House Republicans announced their broad concerns for any immigration overhaul but emphasized they would tackle the challenge bill-by-bill. Immigration legislation is a dicey political question for the Republicans. The party's conservative base opposes any measure that would create a pathway to citizenship for immigrants living here illegally, but many in the party worry that failing to act could drive many voters to Democratic can-

Top Republicans say they stand by Gov. Christie

GEOFF MULVIHILL

Associated Press

High-profile Republicans were adamant Sunday that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie should not resign from his post as chairman of the Republican Governors Association after a recent claim from a former ally that there is evidence Christie knew about an apparently politically motivated traffic jam earlier than he has said.

The support from former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal and Wisconsin U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan put Republicans on the offensive and the Democratic chairman of a state legislative committee investigating the September lane closures near the George Washington Bridge on the defensive

the day Christie's state hosts the Super Bowl.

Christie, a potential 2016 presidential contender, has not taken questions about the scandal in recent days. He didn't respond Saturday when some spectators booed him at an appearance in New York City's Times Square. Giuliani, appearing on CBS' "Face the Nation" took aim at the credibility of two figures central to the scandal: John Wisniewski, who's leading the investigative probe, and David Wildstein, the former Christie loyalist who as an executive at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey last year ordered the lane closures, as someone with less than pure motives.

He said Wildstein "wants somebody else to pay his



NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, center, stands between Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer, left, and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, right, showing off souvenir football helmets after a ceremony to pass official hosting duties of next year's Super Bowl to Arizona, Saturday Feb. 1, 2014 in New York. (AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

legal bills and he can't get them paid unless the governor is responsible." On Friday, Wildstein's lawyer wrote a letter to the Port Authority saying evi-

dence exists that Christie knew about the traffic jams in Fort Lee as they happened. But he did not disclose any evidence in the letter. □

Groundhog Punxsutawney Phil predicts longer winter

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Penn- sylvania (AP) — The handlers for groundhog Punxsutawney Phil say

he's forecasting six more weeks of what already has felt like a brutally long and cold winter.

Pennsylvania's famed groundhog emerged from his lair in front of thousands of fans

around daybreak Sunday.

Legend has it that if the furry rodent sees his shadow on Feb. 2, winter will last another month-and-a-half. If he doesn't see it, spring will come early.

In reality, Phil's prediction is decided ahead of time by a group called the Inner Circle, whose members don top hats and tuxedos for the annual Groundhog Day ceremony on Gobbler's Knob, the tiny hill in the town for which he's named about 65 miles (100 kilometers) north-east of Pittsburgh.

According to records going back to 1887, Phil has now seen his shadow 101 times while failing to see it 17 times, according to the Inner Circle. There are no records for the remaining years.

This year's Groundhog Day celebration marks a

winter that has brought extreme cold to stretches of the United States wholly unaccustomed to it, as well as a snow and ice storm that paralyzed Atlanta and other Southern cities.

Phil is the most famous of a small group of groundhogs said to forecast the weather, including Staten Island Chuck in New York and General Beau-regard Lee in Atlanta.

The National Climatic Data Center has put Phil's forecasts to the test and found them sorely lacking, declaring the groundhog has "no predictive skill."

"It really isn't a 'bright' idea to take a measure such as a groundhog's shadow and use it as a predictive meteorological tool for the entire United States," the data center says on its website, helpfully if somewhat obviously. □



Punxsutawney Phil is held by Ron Ploucha, left, as Ground Club Vice President Jeff Lundy, center, reads the weather proclamation after Phil saw his shadow and predicted six more weeks of winter weather after, as Ground Club President, Bill Deeley, right, listens on Gobblers Knob in Punxsutawney, Pa., Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014.

(AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar)

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Clinton: new Iran sanctions could upend talks

DONNA CASSATA

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is warning Congress that new unilateral sanctions against Iran could upend sensitive international negotiations over its nuclear development, imploring lawmakers to work with the Obama administration in presenting a unified front to Tehran.

Echoing President Barack Obama's deep concerns about another round of tough economic penalties, Clinton said any congressional action could undercut U.S. work with its allies as well as American influence with Russia and China in forcing Tehran to negotiate after years of inconclusive talks.

"Now that serious negotiations are finally under way, we should do everything we can to test whether they can advance a permanent solution," Clinton said. "As President Obama has said, we must give diplomacy a chance to succeed, while keeping all options on the table."

Clinton offered her assessment in a three-page letter to Sen. Carl Levin, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee. Levin's office released the letter, dated Jan. 26, on Sunday.

Levin and several other committee chairmen have expressed a willingness to hold off on sanctions to give diplomatic efforts a chance. However, 59 Republicans and Democrats back legislation to impose a new round of penalties on Iran, maintaining that crippling economic sanctions forced Tehran to make concessions.

The legislation, sponsored by Sens. Bob Menendez and Mark Kirk would blacklist several Iranian industrial sectors and threaten banks and companies

around the world with being banned from the U.S. market if they help Iran export any more oil. The provisions would only take effect if Tehran violates the six-month interim deal or lets it expire without a comprehensive nuclear agreement.

Iran agreed in November to slow its uranium enrichment program to a level that is far below what would be necessary to make a nuclear bomb. It also agreed to increased international inspections to give world leaders confidence that it is not trying to build weapons in secret. In exchange, the U.S. and five other nations — Britain, Germany, France, Russia and China — agreed to ease an estimated \$7 billion worth of international sanctions against Iran's crippled economy for a six-month period while negotiators try to broker a final settlement.

Iran has long maintained that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes. Clinton said the intelligence community has said new sanctions could undercut the chances for a comprehensive nuclear agreement with Iran.

"I share that view. It could rob us of the diplomatic high ground we worked so hard to reach, break the united international front we constructed and in the long run, weaken the pressure on Iran by opening the door for other countries to chart a different course," said the former New York senator and possible 2016 presidential candidate. In his State of the Union address this past week, Obama repeated his threat to veto any new Iran sanctions if Congress passes legislation.

Clinton, who said she repeatedly backed Iran sanctions during her eight years as senator, cau-



Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks to the National Automobile Dealers Association meeting in New Orleans, Monday, Jan. 27, 2014. Clinton is warning Congress that new unilateral sanctions against Iran could upend sensitive international negotiations over its nuclear development. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

tioned lawmakers. "If the world judges — rightly or wrongly — that negotiations have collapsed because of actions in the United States Congress,

even some of our closest partners abroad — to say nothing of countries like Russia and China — may well falter in their commitment.

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California farmers brace for drought, unemployment

SCOTT SMITH
Associated Press

MENDOTA, California (AP) — California, the nation's leading agricultural region, is locked in drought and

famous for its abundance. One-third of the Central Valley's jobs are related to farming. Strains on water supplies are expected to force farmers to leave

drivers and those who sell fertilizer, irrigation equipment and tractors. No place may be harder hit than Mendota, a small farm town where unem-

2009, also a dry year. Mayor Robert Silva said he fears this year could be even worse. "We're supposed to be the cantaloupe capital of the world," Silva said. "But we're the food line capital of the world."

Residents of Mendota late last year began seeing tough times on the horizon when little rain fell in the valley and snow didn't blanket the High Sierra. This marks the third consecutive dry year for California, and Gov. Jerry Brown has declared a drought emergency.

This past week, the snow pack's water content was measured at 12 percent of normal. State officials announced that they would not be sending water to California's agricultural customers. U.S. officials are expected in late February to announce they will allot only a fraction of the federally controlled water that farmers want, if any.

If that scenario plays out, Silva estimates the lines they saw outside a Mendota food bank five years ago could run three times

as long this year. His town's unemployment today is at 34 percent — the highest in Fresno County — and interim City Manager Don Pauley figures it will top 50 percent.

Officials at Mendota's City Hall aren't the only uneasy ones. Steve Malanca, general manager at Thomason Tractor in Firebaugh, said farmers have already told him that digging deeper wells and buying irrigation water are higher priorities in 2014 than investing in new farm equipment from him. With reduced work in the fields, Malanca said it's clear he will have to lay off some of his 49 employees. The ripple effect of drought extends to the trucking companies that haul crops, tire companies that outfit the big rigs and fuel suppliers who provide diesel, he said. Employees at John Deere world headquarters in Moline, Illinois, will feel repercussions from drought in California, the biggest agricultural producer, he said. So will the businesses that make cardboard boxes to hold cantaloupes and the wooden pallets for stacking the boxes, Malanca said. The list goes on.

"When you make a hay bale, you've got to tie that bale with string," he said. "The supplier who made that string, he's going to be out of work, too."

A 2012 study by the Agricultural Issues Center at the University of California, Davis, found that farming and food processing industries created nearly 38 percent of all Central Valley jobs. Every 100 farm and processing jobs create work for another 92 people, said the report, which measured agriculture's impact on the state's economy.

Fresno County led the nation in farming in 2012, generating nearly \$6.6 billion in economic activity, said Ryan Jacobsen, executive director of the Fresno County Farm Bureau. □



Forklift driver William Felix, 56, attends a devotional at the Salvation Army in Los Banos, Calif. Now unemployed, Felix said that he has been to a local cannery four times this winter asking for work with no luck. He doubts a call will come at all this year, given the state's drought. "If we don't get rain, we don't get work," Felix said. For now, he relies on free food from the Salvation Army as well as a spiritual boost. (AP Photo/Scott Smith)

bracing for unemployment to soar, sending farm workers to food lines in a place

fields unplanted, creating a ripple effect on food processing plant workers, truck

ployment rose above 40 percent at the height of the economic recession in

Landrieu is re-elected Mayor of New Orleans

CAMPBELL ROBERTSON
© 2014 New York Times

NEW ORLEANS - Mitch Landrieu cruised to a second term as mayor on Saturday, having successfully made the case to a large majority of this city's residents that the recovery from Hurricane Katrina, while incomplete, is heading in the right direction. Landrieu won with 64 percent of the vote, a margin of victory that almost matches that of his first mayoral victory in 2010.

"The results tonight confirm what we hoped was true four years ago," Landrieu said in his victory speech, "that the people of this great city are ready to move forward."

Landrieu had substantial advantages when it came

to campaign money, name recognition and history: every New Orleans mayor since the 1930's—including Landrieu's father, Moon Landrieu, who stood nearby at the victory speech—has won a second term. But few have won so handily in back-to-back races. Landrieu's victory, for the second time, came from large numbers of white and black voters, making him a white mayor with a broad base of support in a majority black city. Before 2010, Landrieu had lost in two previous attempts to become mayor, including in 2006 when he came up short against the then-incumbent, C. Ray Nagin. In a rather striking coincidence, Nagin began his trial for political

corruption last week in a federal courthouse eight blocks from City Hall.

Landrieu's opponents this time—Michael Bagnieris, a former Civil District Court judge, and Danatus King, president of the local chapter of the NAACP—drew 33 and 3 percent of the vote, respectively. During the campaign, they both challenged the inclusiveness of the city's recovery, highlighting parts of New Orleans that are lagging behind in public and private investment, and also drew attention to the soaring and persistent unemployment rate among the city's black men.

"All that you have done is call attention to some very serious problems confronting this city," Bagnieris, who

was the better financed challenger and considered the mayor's main opponent, said to supporters in his concession speech. Landrieu appeared to agree, acknowledging the challenge of unemployment and the disparity among the city's neighborhoods both during the campaign and in post-election interviews.

Landrieu was endorsed by President Barack Obama, and though it is hard to say what sort of difference that made, it was a reminder that the vote took place with a national backdrop. In November, Landrieu's sister, Mary Landrieu, faces a tough re-election bid for U.S. Senate, and will be dependent upon strong turnout in New Orleans. □

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American retailers ask: where did teenagers go?

ELIZABETH A. HARRIS

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Luring young shoppers into traditional teenage clothing stores has become a tough sell.

When 19-year-old Tsarina Merrin thinks of a typical shopper at some of the national chains, she doesn't think of herself, her friends or even contemporaries.

"When I think of who is shopping at Abercrombie," she said, "I think it's more of people's parents shopping for them."

Sales are down across the shelves of many traditional teenage apparel retailers, and some analysts and others suggest that it's not just a tired fashion sense causing the slump. The competition for teen-

age dollars, at a time of high unemployment within that age group, spans from more stores to shop in to more tempting technology.

And sometimes phones loaded with apps or a game box trump the latest in jeans.

Mainstays in the industry like Abercrombie & Fitch, American Eagle Outfitters and Aéropostale, which dominated teenage closets for years, have been among those hit hard.

The grim reports of the last holiday season have already proved punishing for senior executives at the helm of a few retailers. In a move that caught many analysts by surprise, the chief executive of Ameri-



Teen shoppers walk with bags from Abercrombie & Fitch and American Eagle Outfitters at a mall in the United States. Retailers say that luring young shoppers into traditional teenage clothing stores has become a tough sell.

(AP Photo)

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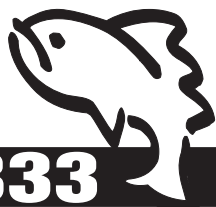


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can Eagle, Robert L. Hanson, announced he was leaving the company last week. And on Tuesday, Abercrombie announced it was making several changes to the company's board and leadership, including separating the role of chief executive and chairman.

Aside from those shake-ups, analysts are saying they do not expect much improvement in this retail sector anytime soon.

According to a survey of analysts conducted by Thomson Reuters, sales at teenage apparel retailers open for more than a year, like Wet Seal, Zumiez, Abercrombie and American Eagle, are expected to be 6.4 percent lower in the fourth quarter than in the previous period. That is worse than any other retail category.

"It's enough to make you think the teen is going to be walking around naked," said John D. Morris, an ana-

lyst at BMO Capital Markets. "What happened to them?"

Paul Lejuez, an analyst at Wells Fargo, said he and his team put out a note in May on the health of the teenage sector and department stores called "Watch Out for the Kid With the Cough." (Aéropostale was the coughing teenager.) Nonetheless, he said, "We ended up being surprised just how bad things got so quickly. There's really no sign of life anywhere among the traditional players."

Causes are ticked off easily. Mentioned often is the high teenage unemployment rate, reaching 20.2 percent among 16- to 19-year-olds, far above the national rate of 6.7 percent.

Cheap fashion has also driven a more competitive market. So-called fast-fashion companies, like Forever 21 and H&M, which sell

trendy clothes at low prices, have muscled into the space, while some department stores and discount retailers like T.J. Maxx now cater to teenagers, as well. "You can buy a plaid shirt at Abercrombie that's like \$70," said Daniela Donayre, 17, standing in a Topshop in New York. "Or I can go to Forever 21 and buy the same shirt for \$20."

Online shopping, which has been roiling the industry for years, may play an especially pronounced role in the teenage sector, analysts say. A study of a group of teenagers released in the fall by Piper Jaffray found that more than three-fourths of young men and women said they shopped online.

Not only did teenagers grow up on the Internet, but it has shaped and accelerated fashion cycles.

Continued on Page 27

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Ukraine:

President to end sick leave as new protests mount

JIM HEINTZ

Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) —

Ukraine's president will return Monday from a short sick leave that had sparked a guessing game he was taking himself out of action in preparation to step down or for a crack-down on widespread anti-government protests.

Viktor Yanukovich's office made the announcement about the president's return the same day as protesters seeking his resignation held one of their largest gatherings in recent weeks. About 20,000 people assembled at the main protest site in Kiev's central square on Sunday.

Yanukovich's sick leave was announced Thursday, with his office saying he had an acute respiratory illness. Some opposition leaders were skeptical about it, however, and thought Yanukovich was disappearing from the limelight in preparation for imposing a state of emergency amid the deepest turmoil in Ukraine since the Orange Revolution in 2004-2005. The protests, which are heading into a third month, began in late November after Yanukovich backed away from a long-awaited agreement to deepen ties with the European Union. They quickly grew to encompass a wide range of grievances after police violently dispersed some of the early gatherings.

During Yanukovich's sick leave, a sense of stasis set in and neither side showed signs of movement. But his return to work could bring new action.

"Repression works in reverse. More people are coming to Maidan," said demonstrator Tamara Tribko, using the abbreviated name of the square where

an extensive tent camp has been established since early December.

Top opposition figures spoke to the rally to urge supporters to push forward with their demands. Arseniy Yatsenyuk, one of the protest leaders, emphasized the importance of obtaining the release of all people arrested during the protests.

"We must free all," Yatsenyuk said, adding that there were 116 people being held. "Freedom to every hero."

Yanukovich's sick leave was announced the morning after the parliament voted to offer amnesty to many of those arrested during protests on the condition that demonstrators vacate some of the buildings they occupy in Kiev and government buildings elsewhere in the country.


The measure was greeted with disdain by protesters, who characterized it as the government essentially taking hostages and then using them to try to negotiate concessions. Kiev's city hall, which protesters have seized, is being used as an operations center and dormitory key to supporting the extensive protester tent camp on the nearby Independence Square.



Another protest leader, former heavyweight boxing champion Vitali Klitschko, showed that opposition hopes for cooperation from abroad are high.



"The crisis will end at last when under the auspices of the international community we will hold new elections that will stop the regime of Yanukovich," he said. On Tuesday, parliament is expected to consider reforms to the constitution that would reduce some presidential powers and allot them to the prime minister. □



An Orthodox priest goes between riot police and opposition activists' barricades in central Kiev, the epicenter of the country's current unrest, Ukraine, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014. Kitted out in masks, helmets and protective gear on the arms and legs, radical activists are the wild card of the Ukraine protests now starting their third month, declaring they're ready to resume violence if the stalemate persists. (AP Photo/Efrem Lukatsky)



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Syria: Air raids kill at least 36 in Aleppo

RYAN LUCAS
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian government helicopters and warplanes unleashed a wave of airstrikes on more than a dozen opposition-held neighborhoods in the northern city of Aleppo on Sunday, firing missiles and dropping crude barrel bombs in a ferocious attack that killed at least 36

with barrel bombs — containers packed with explosives, fuel and scraps of metal — that cause massive damage on impact. On Sunday alone, Syrian military aircraft targeted 15 opposition-controlled neighborhoods, said an activist who goes by the name of Abu al-Hassan Marea.

The Britain-based Syrian

killed in the airstrikes, although he did not have an exact count.

An amateur video posted online showed a helicopter circling in the blue sky, and then a barrel plummeting from the aircraft until it slams into buildings on the horizon, sending a pillar of smoke and dust into the air. The video appeared genuine and cor-



Lebanese army soldiers guard the site where a deadly car bomb blew up Saturday evening near a gas station, in the predominately Shiite town of Hermel, about 10 miles (16 kilometers) from the Syrian border in northeast Lebanon, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014. (AP Photo/Hussein Malla)

people, including 17 children, activists said.

Aleppo has been a key battleground in Syria's civil war since rebels swept into the city in mid-2012 and wrested most of the eastern and southern neighborhoods from the government. Since then, the fighting has settled into a bloody grind, with neither side capable of mounting an offensive that would expel its opponents from the city.

But over the past two months, President Bashar Assad's air force has ramped up its aerial campaign on rebel-held areas of Aleppo, pounding them

Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group said the Tariq al-Bab district on the eastern edge of the city was the hardest-hit, with at least eight barrel bombs raining down on it Sunday. Marea said one of the air raids in the neighborhood struck a vegetable market and another landed near a mosque.

The Aleppo Media Center activist group said the strike near the Abdullah bin Masoud Mosque killed more than 10 people.

The Observatory put the day's death toll in the air raids at 36, including 17 children. Marea said that more than 50 people were

responded to other Associated Press reporting of the events depicted.

This is not the first time that Assad's air force has waged an intense campaign over Aleppo. In December, military helicopters pounded rebel-held districts of the city with barrel bombs, leveling buildings, burying people under the rubble and killing more than 500 people over a two-week stretch.

The misery in Aleppo was then compounded in early January by an outburst of rebel-on-rebel fighting, which has weakened the opposition's grip on parts of the city. □

Tense Thai elections go ahead

THANYARAT DOKSONE
Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Protesters trying to derail Thailand's national elections Sunday forced the closure of hundreds of polling stations in a highly contentious vote that has become the latest flash point in the country's deepening political crisis.

Around the country, the vast majority of voting stations were open and polling proceeded relatively peacefully. Polling stations closed for the day with no reports of violent clashes, easing fears of bloodshed a day after gun battles in Bangkok left seven people wounded. The national focus was riveted to the capital where 488 of the capital's 6,600 polling stations were shut and several skirmishes broke out between protesters intent on disrupting the vote and frustrated would-be voters. The Election Commission said the closure of polls affected more than 6 million registered voters.

In some cases, protesters formed blockades to prevent voters from entering polling stations. Elsewhere, protesters blocked the delivery of ballots and other election materials, preventing voting stations from opening. The Election Commission said that hundreds of polling stations in the south, an opposition stronghold, faced similar problems.

Angry voters at one Bangkok district stood outside of closed voting stations waving their identification cards and shouting "Election! Election!"

"We have the right to vote. You don't have the right to take that away from us," said Sasikarn Wannachokechai, a 51-year-old Bangkok resident who said she had never missed a chance to vote.

The outcome of the vote will almost certainly be inconclusive. Because protesters blocked candidate registrations in some districts, parliament will not have enough members to convene. That means beleaguered Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra will be unable to form a government or even pass a budget, and Thailand will be stuck in political limbo for months as by-elections are run in constituencies that were unable to vote.

Official results were not expected for weeks, with final counting delayed until all districts have voted. Advance voting that was scheduled for last Sunday but thwarted in many districts has now been rescheduled for late February.

The conflict pits demonstrators who say they want to suspend the country's fragile democracy to institute anti-corruption reforms against Yingluck's supporters who know the election will not solve the nation's crisis but insist the right to vote should not be taken away.

The protesters, a minority that cannot win power at the polls, are demanding the government be replaced by an unelected council that would rewrite political and electoral laws to combat deep-seated problems of corruption and money politics. Yingluck has refused to step down, arguing she is open to reform and that such a council would be unconstitutional.

"This is not a fair election," said Ampai Pittajit, 65, a retired civil servant helping to block ballot boxes in the Bangkok district of Ratchathewi. □

Venezuelan blogger parts from project

JOSHUA GOODMAN

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — One of Venezuela's most-prominent opposition bloggers, whose English-language musings are a must-read for foreign journalists, academics and political junkies, is leaving his beat as a chronicler of the country's socialist revolution.

Francisco Toro said that his decision to cut ties with the Caracas Chronicles blog he co-founded reflects the stagnation that has overtaken his homeland since former President Hugo Chavez's death last year and which makes the country less interesting to write about. When the blog began, in 2002, Chavez was a fast-rising, political maestro who craftily leveraged the world's largest oil reserves to rally anti-American sentiment in Latin America and other parts of the developing world. A decade later, in the hands of his less charismatic successor Nicolas Maduro, Toro says much of the revolution's influence has waned as the economy reels from widespread shortages, 50 percent inflation and a currency crisis. "The truth is that like a lot of people I miss Chavez," Toro, who was also a frequent contributor to the New York Times, said in a telephone interview from his home in Montreal. "There's no real hemispheric dimension anymore. Venezuela is so clearly not a model that any sane person would want to emulate. It's just a local story of a country gone crazy." The blog's other founder, Chile-based Juan Cristobal Nagel, says the blog will soon be relaunched with new voices including more women and younger writers inside Venezuela. □

El Salvador, Costa Rica vote to elect new leaders

MARCOS ALEMAN

Associated Press

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Presidential elections in two Central American countries Sunday are both referendums on political stagnation, with voters in Costa Rica deciding whether to oust the long-ruling party, and voters in El Salvador deciding whether to bring it back to power.

El Salvador's ruling leftist party faces an uphill battle to keep the presidency after only one term, with critics saying the government of President Mauricio Funes did little to energize a sluggish economy and reduce gang crime.

In Costa Rica, a ruling conservative party that is battling corruption allegations is being challenged by a charismatic left-leaning congressman.

Experts say both of Sunday's votes will result in run-offs, as neither candidate leading in the polls is likely to get the 50 percent plus one vote needed to declare victory.

In El Salvador, Vice President Salvador Sanchez had a moderate lead going into the vote in his bid to extend the rule of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, the party of former civil war guerrillas that defeated the long-ruling Nationalist Republican Alliance, or ARENA, for the first time in 2009.

Trailing closely behind is ARENA candidate Norman Quijano, the 67-year-old mayor of San Salvador.

A former television journalist, Funes has won the support of the poorest sectors of Salvadoran society by implementing social programs, including giving books, shoes and uniforms to school children, seeds and fertilizers to the poor-

est farmers and a small pension to the elderly.

"The people in rural areas, in marginalized sectors, people with lower levels of education were once the main political capital of ARENA, but they are

issues are a sluggish economy and rampant gang crime in the country of 6 million people. Under Funes, leaders of El Salvador's Mara street gangs declared a truce in several cities that yielded

tion has intensified and gangs have solidified their control over territory." In the last year, police have found mass graves containing the bodies of at least 24 alleged gang victims. On top of the lack of security, Funes wasn't able to control the deficit or create jobs. But his poor handling of the economy may be not enough to bring back ARENA, said Omar Serrano, of the Central American University Jose Simeon Canas. "The population is not satisfied with the current government, is not convinced that the FMLN should continue to rule, but it's very much convinced that ARENA shouldn't return to government," Serrano said.

A poll published Jan. 15 shows Sanchez, a 69-year-old former guerrilla commander, has 37 percent support, compared to 30 percent for Quijano. Former President Tony Saca is in third place with 21 percent. Poll workers from the Public Opinion Institute at the Central American University Jose Simeon Canas visited 1,580 likely voters at home from Jan. □



Johnny Araya, presidential candidate for the National Liberation Party, PLN, waves to supporters outside a polling station, after voting in the general election in San Jose, Costa Rica, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014. The ruling PLN has been beset by infighting and corruption allegations and Araya, now faces three rivals, which experts say could splinter Sunday's vote. Araya, who has been the mayor of the capital of San Jose since 2003, must overcome the discontent over high unemployment during President Laura Chinchilla's government. (AP Photo/Moises Castillo)

now the FMLN's electoral stronghold," said Jeanette Aguilar, director of the Public Opinion Institute at the Central American University Jose Simeon Canas. For Salvadorans, the main

mixed results. "Homicides have gone down but (the gangs) are still killing, now they hide the victims," said Roberto Rubio, director of the National Foundation for Development. "Extor-

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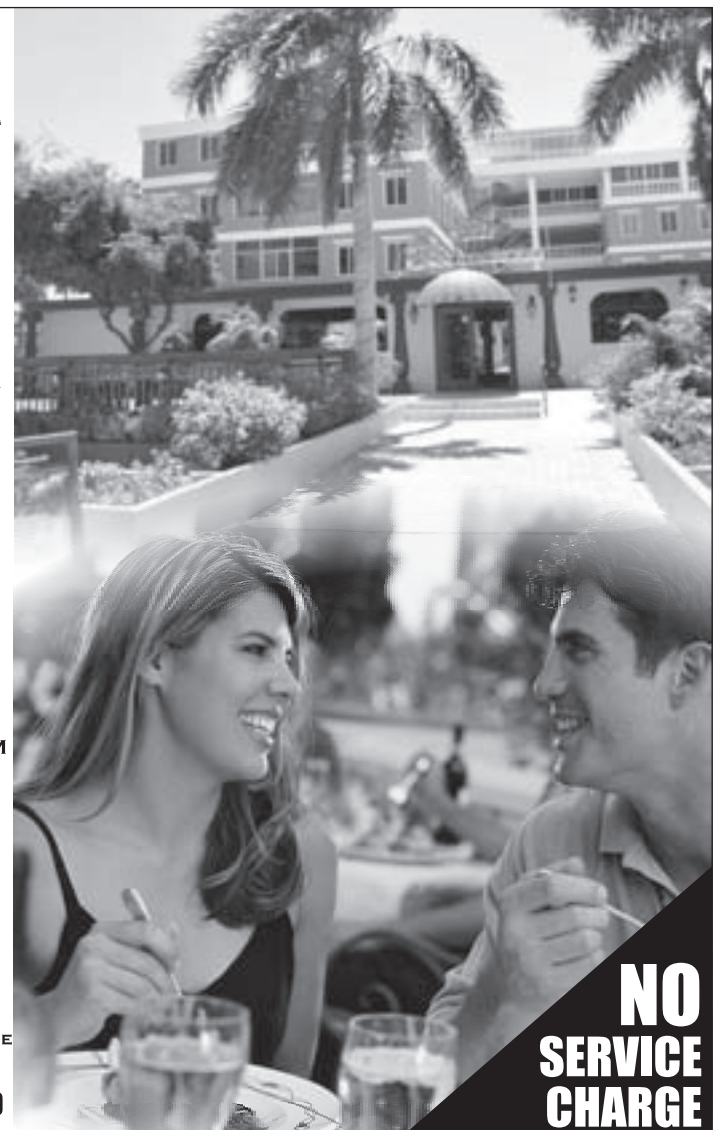
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China faces obstacles on road to consumer society

JOE McDONALD
AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Business should be picking up for Zhao Guoping, a Beijing shopkeeper, as Chinese leaders try to build a consumer society to replace a worn-out economic model based on trade and in-

The government is walking a fine line, however, as an abrupt shift in the economy could hurt growth, with consequences not just for the country but the global economy. China's economic importance was laid bare last month, when a report showing a drop

such as steel and cement. "It is a pretty narrow path that policymakers have to push the economy along," said Mark Williams, chief Asia economist for Capital Economics. "The risk is that if investment spending slows too much, then that starts to undermine con-

at China's biggest companies grew in December at their slowest rate in nine months. Growth in factory output and retail sales weakened, suggesting that the quarter's headline growth of 7.7 percent might mask a deepening downturn.

there isn't going to be any national-level substantive reform within 2014," said economist Brian Jackson of IHS Global Insight. "They're going to launch small experiments."

The biggest potential growth risk cited by many analysts: A rapid buildup of debt in China's government-owned banking system. China's banks avoided mortgage-related turmoil that battered Western lenders but ramped up lending under orders from the government to help fend off the effects of the 2008 global slowdown.

The IMF and industry analysts warn they might be hit by a rise in defaults if toll roads and other projects approved in haste fail to earn enough.

The central bank says debt levels are manageable, but economists say the speed of the increase is a warning sign. Outstanding bank loans have swelled by the equivalent of 70 percent of China's gross domestic product over the past five years. Analysts point to countries such as Thailand that have plunged into financial crises after seeing smaller debt increases of as little as 30 percent.

China "needs to contain the building of risks in the financial sector without excessively slowing growth," said the IMF chief economist, Olivier Blanchard, at a news conference last month. "This is always a very a delicate balancing act."

At the same time, the government's effort to clamp down on credit and tighten control over informal lending that support entrepreneurs has sent shock waves through financial markets. Markets in which banks lend to each other ran short of cash twice last year, causing interest rates to spike and fueling unease about the availability of credit.

"The uncertainty related to rate spikes and liquidity squeezes may affect business spending more broadly," said UBS economist Tao Wang in a report. □



A shopkeeper uses her smartphone as she waits for customers at the gate of a bag shop in Beijing Thursday, Jan. 30, 2014. The reluctance of customers to open their wallets wider is one of a thicket of obstacles facing communist leaders as they try to rebalance China's economy away from reliance on investment that is losing its ability to boost growth.

(AP Photo/Alexander F. Yuan)

vestment. But his financial struggle highlights the hurdles that ambitious effort faces.

Squeezed by higher costs and weak sales to budget-minded shoppers, Zhao said the income from his neighborhood shop has fallen by half to 50,000 yuan (\$6,000) a year.

"Prices are rocketing up. People's incomes can hardly catch up," said Zhao, 38. "Daily necessities, yes, I still have to buy them. But anything I don't necessarily need, then no."

The reluctance of Zhao and his customers to open their wallets wider is one of a thicket of obstacles facing communist leaders as they try to rebalance China's economy away from reliance on investment, a big share of which comes from the government and is losing its ability to boost growth.

in manufacturing activity caused turmoil on world markets.

Combined with an export boom, a flood of spending on new factories, highways and other assets powered the past decade of explosive growth. That helped China rebound quickly from the 2008 global crisis. But it was paid for with a surge in borrowing that economists warn looks like debt booms in other developing countries that spiraled into financial crises.

As urgency for change mounts, so do potential hurdles. Consumer spending accounts for only about 35 percent of gross domestic product, well below neighboring India's 60 percent, and that percentage declined last year. Curbs on investment will mean less money flows to wages in construction and building materials industries

sumer spending and you get a downward spiral."

Forecasts of this year's growth range from 7 to 8 percent, far ahead of the United States and Europe but down from China's double-digit rates of the past decade. Last year's 7.7 percent growth tied with 2012 for the weakest performance in two decades. And it hit that only after the government launched a mini-stimulus in mid-2013 with more spending on building new railways and other public works.

The impact of a government clampdown on lending and construction is showing in slower economic activity, raising the risk of politically difficult job losses.

A survey by HSBC Corp. found manufacturers cut jobs in January at their fastest rate in five years. Profits

Moves to encourage consumer spending are part of a marathon effort by the Communist Party to transform China from a low-wage factory into a high-income creator of technology with self-sustaining economic growth.

A broad-strokes plan issued by the party leadership in November promises to give entrepreneurs who generate most of China's new jobs and wealth more access to state-dominated industries.

Regulators announced last month that they will allow the creation of five privately financed banks this year. The government has announced plans for a dozen new free-trade zones in Shanghai and other cities with promises of easier restrictions on business.

But such changes will take time to show results. "Our expectation is that



Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort Spa & Casino Earns Place on U.S. News & World Report's List of Best Hotels in Aruba!



ORANJESTAD/WASHINGTON - Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort Spa & Casino has received recognition as one of the 2014 "Best Hotels in Aruba" by U.S. News & World Report. The 2014 Best Hotels rankings are available online at <http://travel.usnews.com/>. The 2014 Best Hotels recognize hotels that were ranked based on an unbiased methodology that includes the collective opinion of travel experts and guests, expressed through online reviews and ratings. To create this year's rankings, U.S. News factored in the prominence of industry awards a hotel receives along with its reputation among travel experts and guests. In total, 1,693 U.S. hotels, 271 Caribbean hotels, 342 Mexican hotels and 223 Canadian hotels were evaluated for the 2014 rankings. Hotels named "Best" in their destination are typically the properties that

have ranked the top 30 percent of U.S. News-evaluated properties in that region. A smaller, more selective group of hotels that are ranked in the top 10 percent of all ranked luxury hotels in the United States, the Caribbean, Mexico or Canada received a "Best Hotels in the USA," "Best Hotels in the Caribbean," "Best Hotels in Mexico" or "Best Hotels in Canada" award, depending on their location.

"We are excited to be ranked as one of the best hotels in the Caribbean by U.S. News & World Report for the second year in a row," said Fred Hoffmann, General Manager of Hyatt Regency Aruba. "The 'Best Hotel in Aruba' accolade shows that our continued commitment to enhancing the resort and providing our guest with the best possible experience has paid off and that people are noticing the exceptional product."



"The 2014 Best Hotels were selected because they meet the highest standards of travel experts and guests alike," said Miriam Weiner, travel editor for U.S. News. "These properties are renowned in the travel industry for their luxury amenities and quality customer service." The U.S. News rankings of

the 2014 Best Hotels can be found online here: <http://travel.usnews.com/Hotels>.

For more information about the Hyatt Regency Aruba call 1-800-55-HYATT or visit www.aruba.hyatt.com.

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magnificent beachfront property on Aruba's world-renowned Palm Beach, Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort Spa & Casino is a year-round resort with a reputation for refined hospitality. Its 357 sumptuous guest-rooms and suites include plasma televisions, roomy bathrooms and Hyatt's signature Grand Bed. The hotel delivers a sense of authentic island chic with an emphasis on unique architecture that includes an open-air lobby, natural stone floors and colorful Caribbean accents. Recreational facilities are abundant and include a 3-level pool complex, a new ZoiA Spa with fitness center, tennis and basketball courts, a private beach, Camp Hyatt for kids and the Hyatt Regency Casino. On-site dining includes Mexicado, Ruinas del Mar restaurant, and the Palms Bar & Grill. Nine meeting rooms and extensive outdoor areas are ideal for catered special events. The resort is conveniently located just 15 minutes from Queen Beatrix International Airport. For more information, call 1-800-55-HYATT or visit www.aruba.hyatt.com. □



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the recent launch of a brand new website.

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Marketing efforts of the Gold Coast residential community were also enhanced with the recent launch of a brand new website: www.arubarentalsvacation.com. Functionalities of this new website include a chat room where guests can immediately reach out with their questions to a Front Office staff member of Gold Coast. The website

also features an easy-to-use booking engine for direct bookings of the Gold Coast condos, townhouses and spacious villas.

Lastly, Gold Coast shares its results of the third quarter of 2013. Compared to the same time last year results show a 200% increase in rental business of their condos, townhouses and villas. In addition the occupancy at the rental homes in this residential community also increased by 200% compared to the third quarter of 2012. Construction activities are still ongoing at Gold Coast and it is to be expected that their magnificent growth will be doubled again next year.

Future expansion includes the construction of a Gold Coast Clubhouse. This multi-purpose Clubhouse will feature 2 tennis courts and large community pool, a convenience store, business center, restaurant, Spa and state of the art Fitness Center. The Gold Coast Clubhouse is to be completed in 2014. □

Beauty On The Beach

Megan Janer

She is from Michigan. Her first time in Aruba, she is on her honeymoon, staying at Marriott Ocean Club. She loves the Aruban Beach and local food.

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day. Whether choosing Fried Fish Basket for only \$15 or a delicious Red Snapper for \$20, you wish it was Monday every day! Bugaloe is known for fun and craziness, so it was only logical Chef Marc Hernandez likes to go wild when it comes to his cooking. Caught in the morning, served at night is the true Bugaloe way, maybe this explains its popularity from the start. Crazy Fish Monday is served from 5.30 p.m. till 10 p.m.

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Seahawks beat Broncos 43-8 in Super Bowl



Seattle Seahawks outside linebacker Malcolm Smith (53) intercepts a pass intended for Denver Broncos running back Knowshon Moreno (27) during the first half of the NFL Super Bowl XLVIII football game Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in East Rutherford, N.J. Smith ran the interception back for a touchdown.

Associated Press

DENNIS WASZAK Jr.
AP Sports Writer
EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (AP) — The Seattle Seahawks won their first Super Bowl title Sunday night in overpowering fashion, punishing Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos 43-8. The Seahawks' relentless defense, the NFL's tightest, never let the five-time NFL Most Valuable Player

get going, disarming the highest-scoring offense in league history. Seattle (16-3) was too quick, too physical and just too good for Denver, and that was true in all areas. What was hyped as a classic matchup between an unstoppable offense and a miserly defense turned into a rout. Punctuating Seattle's dominance were a 69-yard

interception return touchdown by linebacker Malcolm Smith to make it 22-0, and Percy Harvin's sensational 87-yard kickoff runback to open the second half. When the Seahawks, up by 29 points, forced a Denver punt early in the third quarter, the 12th Man — and there were legions of them in MetLife Stadium — began chanting "L-O-B, L-O-

B." As in Legion of Boom, the Seahawks hard-hitting defensive secondary line. The loss by the Broncos again raised questions about Manning's ability to win the biggest games. He is 11 wins and 12 losses in the postseason, 1-2 in Super Bowls. He never looked comfortable against a defense some will begin comparing to the 1985 Bears and 2000 Ravens — other

NFL champions who had runaway Super Bowl victories. Seattle forced four turnovers; Denver had 26 all season. The Seahawks looked comfortable and at ease, and not just their defense, which lost All-Pro cornerback Richard Sherman to an ankle injury in the fourth quarter.

Continued on Page 20



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Ovechkin scores in OT; Caps top Reds Wings 6-5

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alex Ovechkin scored his NHL-leading 39th goal on a power play 2:37 into overtime, and the Washington Capitals beat the Detroit Red Wings 6-5 Sunday to earn a split of a home-and-home set and tighten up things in the bottom half of the Eastern Conference. Ovechkin's one-timer from the left circle was no match for goaltender Jimmy Howard, who had only three teammates on the ice with him after Brendan Smith was sent off for tripping 1:26 into the extra period.

Joel Ward had two goals and an assist, and Jason Chimera, John Carlson and Troy Brouwer also scored for the Capitals, who got a touchdown's worth of goals in their fifth consecutive Super Bowl Sunday home matinee. Michal Neuvirth made 25 saves.

Washington lost in a shoot-out at Detroit on Friday. The Capitals and Red Wings are tied at 59 points, in the middle of a six-team pack in which two points separate eighth place from 13th place in the East. Washington had lost seven of nine and three in a row at home.

Gustav Nyquist had his first career hat trick and added an assist, and Tomas Tatar and Justin Abdelkader also scored for the Red Wings, who at least managed to score away from home after getting shut out in their past three road games. Jimmy Howard stopped 22

Washington Capitals right wing Alex Ovechkin (8), from Russia, celebrates his game-winning goal in the overtime period of an NHL hockey game against the Detroit Red Wings, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in Washington. The Capitals won 6-5.

Associated Press

shots for Detroit.

Ward has 17 goals, matching his career high for a season. He's become the unlikely No. 2 scorer on the Capitals, well behind Ovechkin. The pair are a little closer after a scoring change from Friday's game, with Ovechkin's game-tying goal in the waning seconds was credited instead to Ward after a day-after scoring change.

JETS 2, CANADIENS 1 MONTREAL (AP) — Michael Frolik scored in the third period to give Winnipeg a victory over Montreal.

Tobias Enstrom also scored for the Jets and Al Montoya stopped 30 shots.

Brian Gionta scored for Montreal. Carey Price, playing his second game in as many days, made 33 saves.

Frolik scored the winner just over a minute into the third. After a Winnipeg dump-in, Price mishandled the puck outside his crease and lost possession to Andrew Ladd. The Jets' captain found a streaking Frolik in front of the net, and Price couldn't make it back in time to stop the shot.

The Jets have won eight of 10 since Paul Maurice took over as head coach on Jan. 12. □



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Super Bowl

Continued from Page 18

Russell Wilson, who has an NFL-record 28 wins in his first two pro seasons, including playoffs, had a 23-yard TD pass to Jermaine Kearse late in the third quarter to make it 36-0.

Wilson also hit Doug Baldwin for a 10-yard score in the final period in what had become one of the most lopsided Super Bowls. For the fifth time in six meetings between the NFL's No. 1 offense and defense, the D dominated. Only Denver in 1990, when it lost in the biggest romp in Super Bowl history, 55-10 against San Francisco, failed with the top defense. Denver fell to 2-5 in Super Bowls, and



Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson (3) holds up the Lombardi Trophy after winning the NFL Super Bowl XLVIII football game against the Denver Broncos, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in East Rutherford, N.J. The Seahawks won 43-8.

Associated Press

by the end many of Manning's passes resembled the "ducks" Sherman said the All-Pro quarterback sometimes threw. The victory was particularly sweet for coach Pete Carroll, who was fired in 1994 by the Jets, led the Patriots for three seasons and again was canned. After a short stint out of coaching, he took over at Southern California and won two national titles. But he always felt there was unfinished business in the NFL. Carroll finished that business by lifting the Vince Lombardi Trophy, four years after taking charge in Seattle and eight years after the Seahawks lost in their only previous Super Bowl to Pittsburgh. No Super Bowl had been played outdoors in a cold-weather city before — not that the Big Apple was anything close to frozen Sunday, with a 49-degree temperature at kickoff. And no Super Bowl has started more bizarrely. Things went sour for Manning and the Broncos from the very first scrimmage

play, and by halftime they were down 22-0 — their biggest deficit of the season and the only time they didn't score in a half.

On that first play for the Broncos, Manning stepped up toward the line just as center Manny Ramirez snapped the ball. It flew past his incredulous quarterback into the end zone, where Knowshon Moreno dived on it for a safety.

A mere 12 seconds in, Seattle led 2-0 with the quickest score in Super Bowl history, beating Chicago's Devin Hester's kickoff return to open the 2007 game — against Manning's Colts.

That one ended much better for Manning as Indianapolis won the championship. This one was a fiasco throughout, dropping Manning to 11-12 in the postseason. Steven Hauschka, who missed only 2 of 40 field goals entering the game, made a 31-yarder for 5-0 and a 33-yarder for 8-0 after Doug Baldwin toasted 15-year veteran cornerback Champ Bailey, in his first Super Bowl, for 37 yards on third down.

Then the Seahawks began scoring touchdowns.

Manning's third-down pass to Julius Thomas sailed way too high and directly to safety Kam Chancellor, giving the Seahawks the ball at Denver's 37. Harvin, finally healthy after a virtually wasted first season in Seattle, sparked the short drive with a 15-yard burst, and a third-down pass interference call on Tony Carter gave Seattle the ball at the 1. Marshawn Lynch scored to make it 15-0. Then Smith, with a play emblematic of the best defense the NFL has seen in years, made his second huge play in two weeks.

Cliff Avril got to Manning's arm as he was throwing, the ball fluttered directly to Smith, who took off down the left sideline for a 69-yard interception TD.

Manning trudged to the sideline, a look of disgust on his face.

That look didn't improve when, after a drive to the Seattle 19, his fourth-down pass was tipped by Chris Clemons and fell harmlessly to the Meadowlands turf. □

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Rondo scores 19 for Celtics in 96-89 win over Magic

By DOUG ALDEN

Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) -- Rajon Rondo waited more than a year to celebrate playing in a victory.

Rondo made 9 of 11 shots and finished with season highs of 19 points and 10 assists while helping Boston end a four-game losing streak with a 96-89 victory over the Orlando Magic on Sunday.

NBA Roundup "We didn't stop pushing the pace even though we had the lead," Rondo said. "We finally finished a game strong. They made a run at it, but at the end of the day we still got some stops when we needed and made the plays."

Boston entered Sunday winless in six games since Rondo's return last month after missing nearly a year with a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee. He sat out the second of back-to-back games earlier in the week and was fresh enough at the end

Sunday to help the Celtics hold off a late push by the Magic.

"You just feel like you're really under control the way he was playing late," Boston coach Brad Stevens said.

Jared Sullinger scored seven of his 21 points in the fourth quarter for the Celtics, who let a 12-point lead slip to one in the final period before pulling away at the end.

"I think we execute a little crisper," Stevens said. "The ball seems to have found the right guys a lot, especially today. I think that's more of guys getting used to playing with one another."

Brandon Bass had 19 points and nine rebounds and Avery Bradley scored 17 in his return after missing five games with a sprained ankle.

Jeff Green was the only Boston starter not to score in double figures as the Celtics won for the third time in four games against

the Magic, who have lost four of five overall and 11 straight on the road.

Arron Afflalo had 18 points and Nikola Vucevic finished with 14 points and 11 rebounds for the Magic. Glen Davis had 15 points, Tobias Harris scored 13 and Victor Oladipo had 12 points as all five Orlando starters scored in double figures.

But the Magic couldn't stop Rondo, who had six assists in the fourth quarter.

"We stuck to our principles and what we wanted to do. He just came through for his team," Davis said.

The only game on the NBA schedule Sunday featured two of the league's bottom teams.

Orlando, which has just three road wins this season, rallied after making a push in the fourth quarter. The Magic went without a field goal in the fourth quarter until Maurice Harkless' layup cut Boston's lead to 75-68 with 9:01 left to play. E'Twaun Moore and Davis added layups during



Boston Celtics guard Avery Bradley (0) vies for a loose ball with Orlando Magic forward Glen Davis (11) and center Nikola Vucevic, of Montenegro, right, in the first quarter of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in Boston.

Associated Press

an 10-2 run that pulled the Magic within 77-76 on a pair of free throws by Kyle O'Quinn with 6:11 left to play.

It was as close as Orlando would get. Rondo answered with hook shot for the Celtics and Bradley followed with a field goal and

two foul shots as Boston started to pull away. The Celtics sealed it with an 8-2 run in the final two minutes.

"We just wanted to come in and try to change the tempo of the game and just play fast," Harkless said. "Unfortunately, we didn't close the game out." □

Gallacher wins Dubai Desert Classic by 1 stroke

BERNIE MCGUIRE

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Stephen Gallacher of Scotland shot a final round 72 Sunday to become the first player to successfully defend the Dubai

Desert Classic title, beating Emiliano Grillo of Argentina by one stroke.

Gallacher fought back after four bogeys over his opening eight left him in a five-way tie for the lead after 11 holes.

He won the 25-year-old tournament with an overall 16-under 272 for only his third victory in 18 years and 431 events on the European Tour.

Grillo secured his best Tour finish with an overall 15-under 273 when he eagled the last hole for a round of 66.

Frenchman Romain Wattel also shot a 66, including

birdies on the last two holes, to finish tied in third on 14-under 274 with Brooks Koepka (70) of the United States.

Rory McIlroy struggled with a 74 to finish tied for ninth while top-ranked Tiger Woods (71) birdied his closing three holes for a share of 41st with a 6-under 282.

The 39-year old Gallacher eventually broke clear of the logjam atop the leaderboard to birdie Nos. 13, 16th and 17th before a regulation par at the last.

"It took everything I had to win today especially after the start I had when I bogeyed the first two holes," Gallacher said. "The good thing is that I was fortunate that no one was running away with the tournament ...

The turning point came at 11 when I holed a nice putt for birdie."



Stephen Gallacher of Scotland poses with the trophy after he wins the final round of the Dubai Desert Classic golf tournament in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Sunday Feb. 2, 2014.

Associated Press

The win puts Gallacher into the top 40 in the world, putting him in a strong position to play the Masters for the first time in his career. The top 50 in the world at the end of March get into the Masters at Augusta.

McIlroy began the last day two shots behind playing partner Gallacher but was 2-over after 10 holes before the first birdie of his round at the 11th.

The Northern Irishman then bogeyed the 12th and 13th before only his second birdie of the round at No. 17.

"On the rare occasions I got the ball close, I didn't make any putts, so it was one of those days," McIlroy said. "I thought if I could get to 16 under it would be good enough and it turned out that it was as that's what Stephen got to. I just wasn't able to play well enough to get there." □



Kevin Stadler smiles as he poses for photographers with the championship trophy after winning the Phoenix Open golf tournament on Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014, in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Associated Press

JOHN NICHOLSON

AP Sports Writer

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona (AP)

— Kevin Stadler won the Phoenix Open on Sunday for his first PGA Tour title when playing partner Bubba Watson missed a 5-foot-

er for par on the final hole. Stadler, the 33-year-old son of PGA Tour winner Craig Stadler, closed with a 3-under 68 for a one-stroke victory over Watson and Canadian Graham DeLaet. Stadler won in his 239th

Kevin Stadler wins Phoenix Open

PGA Tour start, earning a spot in the Masters — a tournament his father won in 1982. The Stadlers are the ninth father-son winners in tour history.

Stadler finished at 16-under 268 at TPC Scottsdale, his home course. Raised in Colorado, he played in Denver Broncos colors, wearing an orange shirt and blue pants and hat.

Watson shot a 71, and DeLaet had a 65.

After Stadler and Watson each saved par after hitting into the water on the par-5 15th, Stadler tied Watson for the lead with a par on the par-3 16th hole. Watson hit into the front left bunker on the stadium hole and his 6-footer for par slid by the left side.

They each two-putted for birdie from 90 feet — Watson holing out from 18 feet and Stadler from 5 — after driving the green on the 347-yard hole.

Stadler hit a 344-yard drive on the par-4 18th and hit his 110-yard approach to the back right pin to 10 feet. Watson hit a 342-yard drive into the right rough and hammered his second from 120 yards over the green and into the spectators seated on a hill.

Watson bladed his shot from the trampled rough into the bank next to the green and it ran 5 feet past the hole.

After Stadler missed his birdie try and tapped in for par, Watson's par try slid by the left side to end the tour-

namment.

Stadler's previous biggest win was in Australia in the European Tour's 2006 Johnnie Walker Classic. In that event, he hit a 3-iron to a foot for an eagle on the final hole for a two-stroke victory.

He also won the Argentine Open that winter and has four Nationwide Tour wins. Watson, the third-round leader, is winless since the 2012 Masters.

Hunter Mahan and Japan's Hideki Matsuyama tied for fourth at 14 under. Mahan, the 2010 winner, finished with a 68, and Matsuyama shot 69.

Charles Howell III had a 65 to join Brendan Steele (69) and Ryan Moore (70) at 13 under. □

Pavlyuchenkova beats Errani in Paris final

TRUNG LATIEULE

Associated Press

PARIS (AP)

— Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova is making up for lost time at the age of 22. The Russian looked like a safe bet to become a top 10 player when she cracked the top 50 in 2008 and broke into the top 20 two years later.

Since reaching a career-high No. 13 ranking in July 2011, Pavlyuchenkova has struggled to fulfill her potential. She might have put her career back on track by defeating third-seeded Sara Errani of Italy 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 Sunday in the final of the Open GDF Suez for her sixth career title.

"Definitely, now I feel more mature," Pavlyuchenkova said. "My mentality is a little bit different. Last year or a few years ago, I would lose here in the first round, for sure."

Pavlyuchenkova captured her first title of the season and her first since winning the Portugal Open in May 2013.

The unseeded Russian dictated the points, making



Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia celebrates her win against Sara Errani of Italy during the final match of the 22st Gaz de France WTA Open 2014 tennis tournament at Coubertin stadium, in Paris, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014.

Associated Press

48 winners to 18 for Errani. Errani won seven straight games to rally from a 3-1 deficit in the first set and lead 2-0 in the second. But Pavlyuchenkova responded by also winning seven straight games to even the match and lead 1-0 in the third.

In the final set, Pavlyuchenkova hit a backhand return winner to break for a 5-3 lead and sealed the victo-

ry with a forehand winner. "That was a very mental match," Pavlyuchenkova said. "That gives me a bit of confidence. But I still need to work harder. That was a fantastic week, but I have to keep it going. I hope my level will be a bit more consistent and that I will keep this level."

Pavlyuchenkova won all her matches at this tournament in three sets. She was

coached for a brief period last year by Martina Hingis before resuming her partnership with her dad, Sergey.

"He was my first coach, so he taught me everything I'm doing now," Pavlyuchenkova said. "And he was always there for me, even when I had other coaches. He never let me down."

Pavlyuchenkova got off to a good start by breaking Errani in the third game. But she made numerous unforced errors to squander that advantage, dropping serve at 3-2 with a wide backhand and at 4-3 with a forehand into the net. Errani hit a backhand drop shot to take the opening set.

"I had a lot of emotions going on," Pavlyuchenkova said. "I was just stressing out because I was missing some shots. She was very strong today, so that was frustrating."

Errani broke Pavlyuchenkova in the opening game of the second set with a forehand pass. Pavlyuchen-

kova saved a break point at 2-0 to stay in the match and the momentum suddenly changed.

"From 2-0 in the second set, I thought I had a black-out," Errani said. "The ball was heavier. For me, it was difficult. I had some very bad games."

Pavlyuchenkova slapped forehand return winners to break serve at 2-1 and 3-2 in the second set before Errani sent a forehand long to lose the set.

In the decider, Errani capitalized on a backhand error from Pavlyuchenkova to break for a 2-1 lead. However, Pavlyuchenkova broke back in the sixth game when Errani's backhand sailed long.

Pavlyuchenkova has defeated three top 10 players in the same tournament for the first time in her career. She beat Maria Sharapova of Russia in the semifinals and Angelique Kerber of Germany in the quarterfinals.

Errani lost in the final of the Paris tournament for the second straight time. □

California cracks down on computer boot camps

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -- California consumer protection officials are threatening to close a number of fast-paced, fast-growing computer coding boot camps that train people to work in the technology industry, saying they failed to get licensed as private schools before they started accepting students. The Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education issued citation letters this month to at least six computer-programming academies in the San Francisco Bay Area, according to Dev Bootcamp co-founder Shereef Bishay, whose 2-year-old, nine-week program is the oldest of the group. The letters order the schools to immediately stop enrolling students and to issue refunds to past students until they receive approval to operate. The schools could be fined \$50,000 if they fail to com-



Student David Wen works during a class at Dev Bootcamp in San Francisco, Tuesday, April 2, 2013.

Companies back fast Internet-in-schools initiative

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The White House says it's lined up private support for President Barack Obama's pledge to connect 15,000 schools and 20 million students with high-speed Internet service over the next few years. A White House education event Tuesday will focus on his ConnectED initiative.

Chief of staff Denis McDonough, tells NBC's "Meet the Press" that companies are going to commit more than a half-billion dollars so schools have the technology for students to "compete in this economy."

The Education Department says about 80 percent of schools have Internet capabilities that are too slow or limited to places such as front offices and computer labs. Obama says American schools are falling behind those in other countries with better broadband access.

The Federal Communications Commission is considering ways to increase connectivity in schools. □

L.A. Unified gets lower price for thousands of iPads

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Los Angeles Unified School District is getting a break on the price of thousands of iPads, as it continues the rollout of a \$1 billion plan to provide the tablets to all students.

The Los Angeles Times reported Thursday that under a deal with Apple, the district would save \$200 each on iPads that will be used on new state tests, although the computers won't include curriculum.

The revised price will be \$504, which compares to \$699 for the computers with curriculum. With taxes and other fees, the full cost of the more fully equipped devices rises to \$768.

The districtwide rollout began at 47 schools in the fall. There has been pressure to contain costs since reports surfaced that the district is paying more for devices than other school systems. □

ply, according to the orders, which first were reported by the online news site Venture Beat.

Bishay said his company is eager to satisfy the state and already has submitted a lengthy application outlining the \$12,000-a-session boot camp's curriculum, completion rate, testing methods and other details. But with 60 people now taking classes and hundreds more signed up through mid-summer, suspending the program while awaiting word from the postsecondary education bureau is unfeasible, he said.

"A big problem for us is it's such a huge life commitment. Our students, they quit jobs, they rearrange their lives around this, so shutting down would be catastrophic," he said. "Our businesses might survive it, but it would definitely be catastrophic for the students."

California Department of Consumer Affairs spokesman Russ Heimerich said that as educational institutions that charge "a fairly hefty chunk of money" and are not operated by religious organizations or accredited by another agency, the coding boot camps clearly fall under the regulatory authority of the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, which oversees about 1,400 career schools

and for-profit colleges.

"We did discover that these organizations existed, we looked into it, we found that, yeah, based on what they are doing and how they are doing it, they are not exempt from the law," Heimerich said.

He added, however, that the stern language in the cease-and-desist letters was designed primarily to get the operators' attention and that it was unlikely the bureau would be moving to shut them down as long as they made a good-faith effort to come into compliance.

"We are trying to get them to become licensed," Heimerich said, adding that the agency has not received any complaints about the boot camps and learned about them from a staff investigator who saw them mentioned on a technology blog.

"So if they are doing that, they fall to the bottom or close to the bottom of our enforcement priorities because there are many more serious threats to student consumers."

The bureau assesses schools it regulates \$1 per student, money that goes into a fund that helps reimburse students who paid to attend a school that is shuttered by the state or goes out of business. If their operating applications are

approved, the boot camps would not have to immediately pay the assessment because the fund currently has the \$2.5 million balance authorized under California law, he said.

Bishay said he and his competitors met Wednesday to talk about how to deal with the state's threat and agreed to welcome state oversight.

When Dev Bootcamp was launched, he thought of it as an apprenticeship program, not an educational enterprise, and there are aspects of his business, which receives no government funding or student financial aid, that do not fit neatly within state regulations.

For example, the state also requires schools to seek approval for every change in their curricula, a potential problem in an industry where change happens quickly.

The bureau also requires instructors at private academies to hold bachelor's degrees and three years' teaching experience. One of his best instructors, an experienced engineer, has neither, Bishay said.

"If you are getting a 95 percent job placement rate, do you really care if the teacher has a diploma?" he said. "It hurts us to even have the question be out there unresolved." □

Morgan Stanley's stock bet yields windfall on paper

RACHEL ABRAMS

© 2014 New York Times

When Morgan Stanley's share price fell to \$20 in 2011, the bank's chief executive, James P. Gorman, and several of his top lieutenants tried to encourage investors by buying up stock with their own money. Now, that put-your-money-where-your-mouth-is approach appears to have paid off.

Gorman purchased 100,000 shares for about \$2 million in August 2011. With the stock price Friday at \$29.51, Gorman has netted nearly \$1 million from his investment on paper.

Ruth Porat, the bank's chief financial officer, and Paul J. Taubman, then one of the co-heads of the bank's securities arm, bought more than \$1.5 million worth of shares at the same time Gorman did. Today, those shares would be worth more than \$2.2 million, assuming they have not been sold.

Gorman, like other bank chief executives, receives stock as part of his annual compensation. His equity award nearly doubled, in fact, in 2013. But it is rare for the head of a bank to purchase shares in his or

her own company.

"It's rare, but it's viewed as a signal of confidence," said Alan Johnson, managing director of Johnson Associates, which monitors

Wall Street compensation.

Stocks of Wall Street were on fire in 2013. And the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index rose nearly 30 percent last year, its best advance

since 1997.

The roaring markets finally brought some good news for bank employees. Bonuses have increasingly been paid in restricted

stock, which typically vests over a period of three years, and bank stocks have had a choppy ride since the financial crisis.

"It's been quite volatile and it had been depressed for several years," Johnson said. "We're certainly more optimistic than we were a year ago."

Assuming a three-year vesting plan and no declines in share price, the value of restricted stock awarded to employees at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, JPMorgan, Citigroup, Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs in 2012 will rise 72 percent, the first increase since 2009, according to data from Johnson Associates.

After the financial crisis, regulators and lawmakers criticized what they saw as Wall Street's outsize compensation as having incentivized the kind of risk-taking that led to the mortgage crisis and the economic collapse in 2008.

In response, many of the banks began to defer larger amounts of bonuses, which would theoretically align employee interest more with the longer-term health of the firm. That wasn't good news for employees at Wall Street's biggest financial banks, who saw the value of their restricted stock units plummet after the financial crisis.

Morgan Stanley deferred up to 75 percent of bonuses in 2011, up from 40 percent in 2009. The bank promoted its pay-later plan as a new model for Wall Street, even as some critics said the firm just wasn't doing well enough to pay more compensation upfront.

Gorman rode Morgan Stanley's stock all the way down to \$12 a share at one point in 2012. That would have meant a net loss to the chief executive of \$700,000 if he would have sold then.

But investors have been bolstered by the bank's move away from its riskier trading businesses as it has shifted focus to growing its relatively safer wealth management unit. □



People walk by Morgan Stanley headquarters in New York's Times Square. Morgan Stanley's put-your-money-where-your-mouth-is approach to their 2011 crisis appears to have paid off.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

Need Tax Help? IRS May Not Be the Best Bet

ANN CARRNS

© 2014 New York Times

If you're ready to file your 2013 federal income tax return, you can do so starting this week. The official start of tax-filing season arrived later than anticipated because of a delay caused by last year's government shutdown.

If you are expecting to seek help from the Internal Revenue Service with your tax questions, you may find this to be a frustrating year. Taxpayers are likely to encounter reduced service from the agency because of continued cuts in its budget and staff, according to the annual report of the National Taxpayer Advocate, the office charged with representing the interest of taxpayers. The reductions mean the IRS is "significantly hampered" in its ability to offer "top quality" service, the report said.

What does that mean in practice? Longer waits to have your questions answered, for one thing. In fiscal 2013, which ended Sept. 30, the IRS received 109 million phone calls, according to the advocate's report. Only 61 percent of those callers reached a customer service representative, and their average wait time was nearly 18 minutes.

The IRS is also offering less help at its walk-in Taxpayer Assistance Centers. During this year's tax season, which runs from January through April, the agency said it would answer only basic tax law questions at these offices - and said it would not answer those inquiries at all once the tax season ended, even questions from people who had filed for and received extensions.

Its longtime practice of helping older Americans and lower-income taxpayers prepare and file their returns at the walk-in locations will be curtailed, the IRS said. Instead, the agency will direct people needing help to locations staffed by volunteers. The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program, for instance, has about 5,000 locations nationwide to assist taxpayers. While the offices have typically focused on helping older Americans, this year they will also expand their offerings to include taxpayers of all ages with incomes below \$50,000, said Bonnie Speedy, the program's director.

In general, she said, the program can help people with their returns unless they involve more complex situations, like rental income or a home business. "We're here and ready," she said.

The IRS is urging taxpayers to make use of information and tools available on its website, irs.gov. The agency's online Free File program offers free electronic filing and tax software to help prepare your return on your own; options vary depending on your income. □

Latest sites of breaches in security now target hotels

NICOLE PERLROTH

© 2014 New York Times

SAN FRANCISCO - In the latest in a spate of on-line attacks affecting U.S. businesses, White Lodging, which manages hotel franchises for chains like Marriott, Hilton and Starwood Hotels, is investigating a potential security breach involving customers' payment information. White Lodging Services Corp., which works with 168 hotels in 21 states, confirmed that it was examining the data breach. The intrusion into its systems was first posted by Brian Krebs, a security blogger, on Friday, when he reported that the breach might have resulted in the fraudulent use of hundreds of credit and debit cards for payment at Marriott hotels between March and the end of the year.

Krebs was also first to report the hacking of consumer data from Target, Neiman Marcus and Michaels, the arts and crafts retailer. Krebs said he was alerted to fraudulent transactions at scattered Marriott hotel locations by unnamed people in the banking industry. The locations where the fraudulent activity took place were all managed by White Lodging, which is based in Merrillville, Ind. Kathleen Quilligan, a spokeswoman for White Lodging, confirmed the company was investigating. Separately, Marriott confirmed that a franchisee had experienced unusual fraud activity connected to the systems that process credit card transactions for hotels including Marriott and others. The company said it was working closely with the franchisee as it investigated. A spokesman for the Secret Service could not immediately say whether the agency was investigating the breach of White Lodging data. The Secret Service is conducting separate inquiries into the breaches at Target, Neiman Marcus and Michaels.

A band of hackers in Eastern Europe is believed to be responsible for those data thefts, and may be behind a broader attack directed at as many as half a dozen other retailers, according to two people investigating the breaches who spoke on the condition of anonymity. In some cases, criminals were able to remotely install malware on the retailers in store cash register systems that scraped data from customers' magnetic strips of credit and debit cards during the card authorization process. Before a transaction can be authorized, credit card data is momentarily decrypted and stored in memory. RAM-scraping malware is built to scrape that unencrypted data from memory and steal it, according to a private report issued by iSight partners, which is working with the Homeland Security Department to investigate the retail attacks. It is still unclear how the criminals were able to break into the retailers' systems in the first place. Target confirmed this week that criminals had gained a foothold into its systems by using stolen credentials from a vendor, but did not name the vendor. It was not known whether the White Lodging invasion by hackers was related to any of the other incidents made public in recent months. In another hacking incident, Yahoo on Thursday said criminals had gained access to Yahoo Mail accounts using user names and passwords compromised in a third-party breach. Easton-Bell Sports said the names, email addresses and payment information of 6,000 online customers were stolen in January because of a third-party breach. Bright Horizons Family Solutions, a child care provider, also announced that its customers' information was compromised because of a problem at EasyDraft, which processes payments for the company. □

UAE airline nears decision on Alitalia

ADAM SCHRECK

Associated Press

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The United Arab Emirates' national airline suggested Sunday it is nearing a decision on taking a stake in struggling Italian carrier Alitalia as a high-level Italian delegation promoted investment opportunities during a visit to the Mideast country.

The two-day visit led by Italian Premier Enrico Letta is aimed at boosting bilateral ties and strengthening economic cooperation with the oil-rich federation. It is the first leg of a Gulf tour that will also include stops in Qatar and Kuwait. Letta told reporters at the opulent Emirates Palace hotel in the UAE capital

Italy's largest bank.

Alitalia's CEO was quoted as saying that there is "strong interest on both sides" for a deal. "What happened today is another important step toward building a solid and competitive Alitalia," CEO Gabriele Del Torchio was quoted as saying the Italian news agency ANSA. "A solid and complementary international partner is considered universally indispensable to make Alitalia competitive," Del Torchio was further quoted as saying.

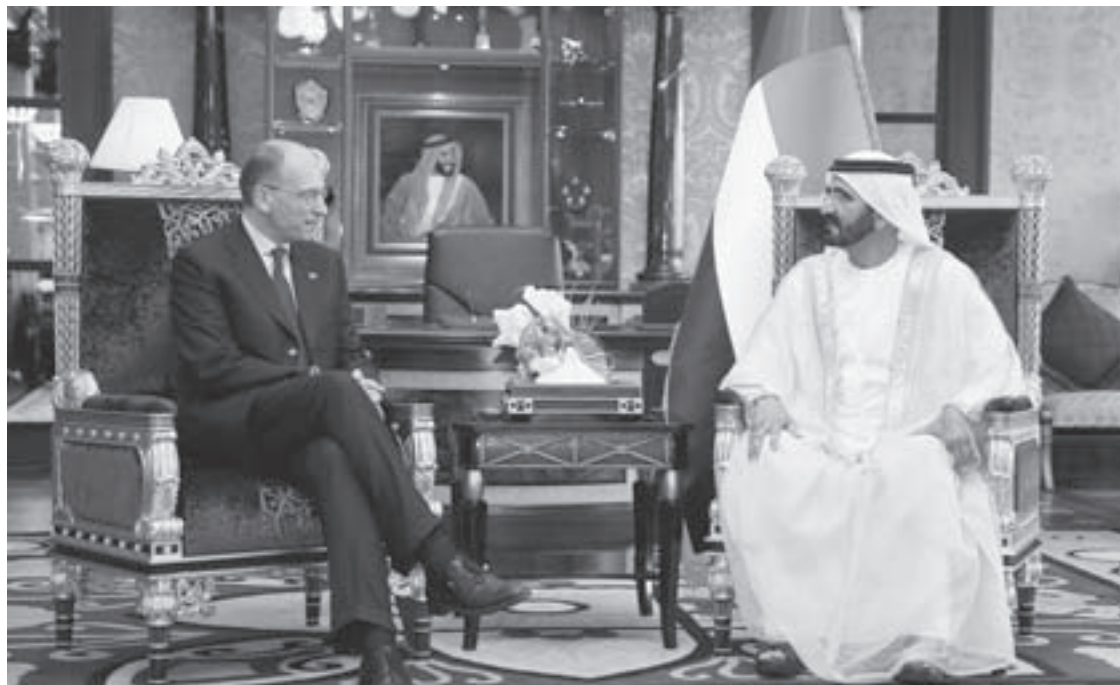
Officials Sunday signed a number of accords on business deals ranging from energy projects to tourism and fitness centers. They also left Abu Dhabi hope-

vent the establishment of an appropriate business plan will have to be resolved to ensure the plan can be implemented to move Alitalia to sustainable profitability," the airlines said.

They gave no indication of how big of a stake Etihad would consider or how much it might pay.

Letta refused to be drawn on the subject either, but said he was hopeful about the talks.

"We need to have a strategic investment for the future," Letta said, leaving open the possibility of a management reshuffle at Alitalia should Etihad's bid prove successful. "We are very much flexible in the discussions we are having,"



In this image released by the Emirates News Agency, WAM, Italian Premier Enrico Letta, left, talks with Emirati Prime Minister and Dubai ruler Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014. Emirati national airline suggested Sunday it is nearing a decision on taking a stake in struggling Italian carrier Alitalia as a high-level Italian delegation promoted investment opportunities during a visit to the Mideast country.

(AP Photo/WAM)

Abu Dhabi that his visit touched on discussions of the political situation in Iran, Egypt and Syria. But business was a key focus, too, as Italy struggles to revive its economy and create jobs.

"The economic part of the visit was for me one of the most important parts," Letta said.

The UAE, a leading OPEC oil producer, has shown an interest in deepening its investments in Italy. Abu Dhabi's Aabar Investments paid \$2.2 billion in 2010 for nearly 5 percent Unicredit,

ful that progress is being made in ongoing talks between Abu Dhabi's Etihad Airways and debt-saddled Italian airline Alitalia.

The airlines said Sunday that they have "entered the final phase of a due diligence process about a possible investment" into the Italian carrier.

They will work toward developing a common strategy over the next 30 days "which meets the objectives of both parties," though they acknowledged that hurdles remain. "Any issues that may pre-

he said.

Alitalia's board in October approved plans for a 300 million euro (\$404 million) capital increase as part of a broader rescue plan to help it stave off bankruptcy. But the money-losing airline still faces strong financial headwinds after one of its main shareholders, Air France-KLM, said it would not join in the money-raising effort.

Letta began his visit Saturday with talks with the Abu Dhabi crown prince, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



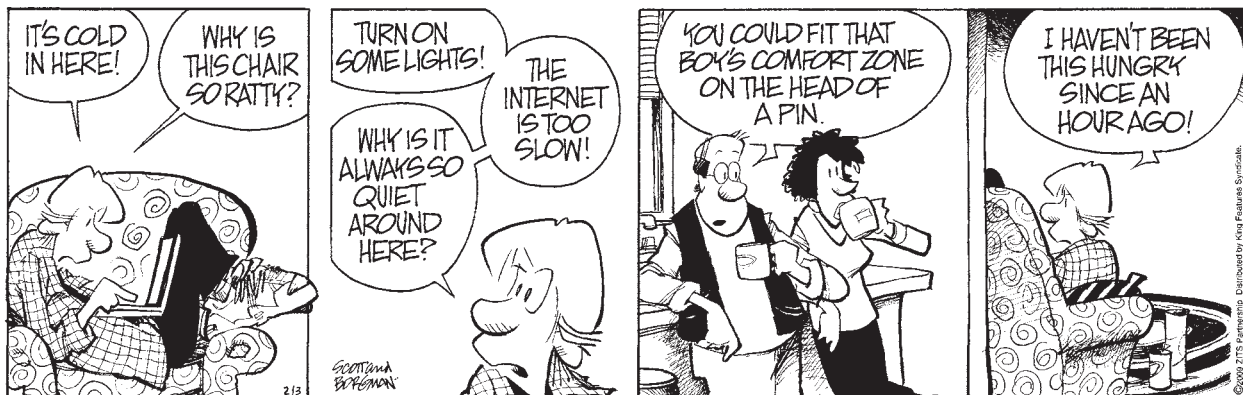
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		9		6		4	
			5			7	1
8	7		1	3			
	7			2	9		6
		3			4		
6	4	1				5	
			2	6	3		9
9	2			7			
	1		9		5		

Difficulty Level ★

2/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

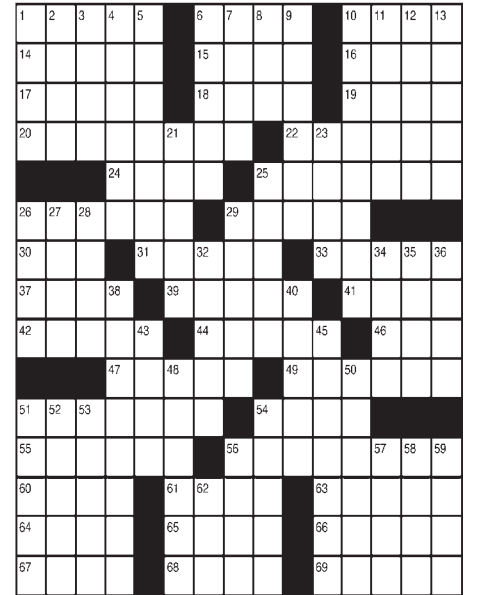
9	5	4	3	2	8	1	7	6
8	3	6	7	1	9	5	4	2
7	1	2	4	6	5	8	3	9
2	9	3	5	7	1	4	6	8
5	8	7	6	3	4	9	2	1
6	4	1	8	9	2	3	5	7
1	7	5	2	8	3	6	9	4
3	2	8	9	4	6	7	1	5
4	6	9	1	5	7	2	8	3

ACROSS

- Assists
- Incite to action
- Colt's mother
- Production at the Met
- ___ over; study intently
- Smell
- Turn around a central point
- Ladder step
- Part of the ear
- Curved sword
- Syria's official language
- Say the "Our Father," e.g.
- Gift
- Traveler's stop
- Soft drinks
- Afternoon hour
- Chairs & stools
- Passed out cards
- Bartlett or Bosc
- More bashful
- Derogatory remark
- Tiny bit of land in the ocean
- Firstborn of two
- Paid athlete, for short
- Went __; was widely viewed on YouTube
- Actress Jacqueline __
- Changed a bit
- Guitar of old
- Raised, as kids
- Located
- Knighted lady
- Facts & figures
- Take __; talk to privately
- Large kitchen appliance
- Hardly __; seldom
- Get stuck
- Nap
- Latest info
- Derisive smile

DOWN

- Little jumps



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/3/14

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

CAKE	PHASE	MUMS
OPEN	LINER	ATOP
MELT	OTTER	RARE
OSPREYS	POACHED	
	ELS	PERCH
DECAF	FAD	TEACH
WART	HAL	CORNEA
AGE	MATADOR	DAN
REPAID	VAN	DESK
FREDS	TED	POSES
	DETER	FOR
EMPEROR	WIDOWER	
VAIN	ARDOR	THAI
EYED	SOAKS	HORN
NASA	TRYST	YANK

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2/3/14

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 35 Entice; draw | 51 Enthusiasm |
| 36 Horse's gait | 52 Depart |
| 38 Pious | 53 Makes gentle |
| 40 Counter an argument | 54 Dishonest ones |
| 43 Trunk spare | 56 One-dish meal |
| 45 Ceremonies | 57 Laundry soap |
| 48 Blush | 58 Margin |
| 50 Spring or fall | 59 Forest animal |
| | 62 "___ Maria" |

Continued from Page 8

Things take off quickly and fade even faster, watched by teenagers who are especially sensitive to the slightest shift in the winds of a trend.

Matthew McClintock, an analyst at Barclays, pointed to Justin Bieber as an example.

"Today, if you saw that Justin Bieber got arrested drag-racing," McClintock said, "and you saw in the picture that he had on a cool red shirt, then you can go online and find that cool red shirt and have it delivered to you in two days from some boutique in Los Angeles."

"Ten years ago, teens were dependent on going to Abercrombie & Fitch and buying from the select items that Mike Jeffries, the CEO, thought would be popular nine months ago." Just this week, Jeffries lost one of his titles, chairman, which he had held since 1996. He will continue on the board as a director and as the company's chief executive.

In other shuffling, Abercrombie announced that the chief financial officer, Jonathan E. Ramsden, would become the chief operating officer, which is a new position at the company.

The announcement about Jeffries along with the elimination of the company's shareholder rights plan - which is designed to prevent potential buyers from acquiring too much control of the company - was greeted favorably by the stock market when it was announced.

Earlier, Brian P. Logan, Abercrombie's vice president for finance, released a statement in response to questions about the company's health and the sector's difficulties. Logan said Abercrombie was "pleased" with its holiday performance, during which sales fell 6 percent over the previous year, because the company expected it to be worse.

Another factor chipping away at teenage retailers may be the shifting priorities among young people.



Classifieds



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OV -\$42k
Plat Plus NY 52 OV- \$49k
GOLD Season
OS \$10k OV \$9500
Oceanfront \$17k
3 BEDRM OV \$17,000

Marriott Aruba Ocean Club

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Oceanfront PLAT \$29k
Platinum 1B OV \$11,500
Gold season 2B OV \$9,000
Oceanfront 2B \$14,500
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phone: USA 440-428-4631

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Room 2307 1 bedroom
week 4, 3rd floor
pool/ocean view
E-mail: jaz1@aol.com
mbre51@aol.com

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TIMESHARE FOR SALE Casa del Mar 1403 (deeded)

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weeks 7 & 8 fri-fri
2 bedroom first floor unit 1566
weeks 5 & 6 fri-fri
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Report: 250 million school age kids can't read

EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

At least 250 million of the world's 650 million primary school age children are unable to read, write or do basic mathematics, according to a report Wednesday commissioned by the U.N. education agency.

The report found that 130 million are in primary school but have not achieved the minimum benchmarks for learning, and almost 120 million have spent little or no time in a classroom including 57 million youngsters who are not attending school.

The independent research team that wrote the report for UNESCO, the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, calculated that the cost of 250 million children around the world not learning translates to a loss for governments of around \$129 billion annually.

UNESCO's U.N. representative Vibeke Jensen said this global "learning crisis" is mainly caused by a lack of well-trained teachers, especially in impoverished areas.

"While more children are in school, it's been at the cost of quality," she said at a news conference launching the report. "The issue now is to put the focus on quality."

In a third of countries analyzed by the team, less than 75 percent of the primary school teachers had been trained to meet national standards.

"Teachers have the future of this generation in their hands," UNESCO's Director-General Irina Bokova said in a statement. "We need 5.2 million teachers to



In this July 26, 2011 file photo, Afghan street children raise their hands to answer the question posed to them by their teacher at Ashiana centre in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Associated Press

be recruited by 2015, and we need to work harder to support them in providing children with their right to a universal, free and quality education."

The report said that ensuring an equal, quality education can increase a country's gross domestic product per capita by 23 percent over 40 years. But according to the report, almost half the children out of school globally are expected never to make it into a classroom — and that includes almost two-thirds of girls in Arab states and sub-Saharan Africa.

The research team reported that almost half the world's out-of-school population of 57 million live in conflict-affected areas, up from 42 percent in 2008.

It estimated that 14 countries had more than one million children out of school in 2011 including Afghanistan, China, Congo, Somalia, Sudan before its

break-up, and Tanzania.

On the plus side, it said three countries reduced their out-of-school populations by at least 85 percent in the last five years — Laos, Rwanda and Vietnam.

World leaders set a goal in 2000 of giving every child a primary school education by 2015 but the report said it is "likely to be missed by a wide margin."

Sub-Saharan Africa is the region lagging farthest behind.

The researchers forecast that if recent trends in the region continue, the richest boys will achieve the goal of completing primary education in 2021 but the poorest girls will not catch up until 2086. □

Oust that tune: Study details cures for earworms



France's Marine Le Pen, leader of the French National Front, left, and fellow Euroskeptic Dutch Geert Wilders, right, adjust their earphones during a press conference in The Hague, Netherlands, Wednesday Nov. 13, 2013.

Associated Press

SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — It

happens to nearly everyone: A song — let's say Abba's "Waterloo" — is stuck in your head and just won't go away.

Now science has not one but three ways to dig that dreaded earworm out. And none of them are too surprising, as researchers surveyed 18,000 residents of Finland and England

and reported their findings in the journal PLOS One.

Researchers at the University of London found that earworm victims say you can listen to the complete song or sing it; you can just not let it bother you, or you can try using another song to shove out the offending tune. How about "God Save the Queen"?

"A tune that's not too catchy itself might do the trick," psychology re-

searcher Lauren Stewart of the University of London said. The British national anthem, which Stewart concedes isn't the type to get stuck in the head, was mentioned most often by the Brits as an earworm replacement. Stewart wrote that 64 specific songs were mentioned as good replacement tunes, but not many repeaters. So the anthem topped the charts with six votes. □

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Philip Seymour Hoffman found dead in NYC apartment

JAKE COYLE

TOM HAYS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Philip Seymour Hoffman, who won the Oscar for best actor in 2006 for his portrayal of writer Truman Capote and created a gallery of other vivid characters, many of them slovenly and somewhat dissipated, was found dead Sunday in his apartment with what officials said was a needle in his arm. He was 46.

Two law enforcement officials, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk about the evidence, said the actor apparently died of a drug overdose. Glassine envelopes containing what was believed to be heroin were found with him, they said.

Hoffman — no matinee idol, with his lumpy build and limp blond hair — made his career mostly as a character actor, and was one of the most prolific in the business, plying his craft with a rumpled naturalism that also made him one of the most admired performers of his generation.

The stage-trained actor was nominated for Academy Awards four times in all: for "Capote," "The Master," "Doubt" and "Charlie Wilson's War." He also received three Tony nominations for his work on Broadway, which included an acclaimed turn as the weary and defeated Willy Loman in "Death of a Salesman."

Hoffman spoke candidly over the years about past struggles with drug addiction. After 23 years sober, he admitted in interviews last year to falling off the wagon and developing a heroin problem that led to a stint in rehab.

Tributes poured in from other Hollywood figures.

"One of the greatest actors of a generation and a sweet, funny & humble man," actor Ricky Gervais tweeted. Director Spike Lee said on Twitter: "Damn, We Lost Another Great Artist."

And Kevin Costner said in an AP interview: "Philip was a very important actor and really takes his place among the real great actors. It's a shame.

Who knows what he would have been able to do? But



In a Sunday, March 5, 2006, file photo, actor Philip Seymour Hoffman poses with the Oscar he won for best actor for his work in "Capote" at the 78th Academy Awards, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

we're left with the legacy of the work he's done and it all speaks for itself."

"No words for this. He was too great and we're too shattered," said Mike Nichols, who directed Hoffman in "Charlie Wilson's War" and "Death of a Salesman."

The law enforcement officials said Hoffman's body was discovered in a bathroom at his Greenwich Village apartment by a friend

who called police and his assistant.

Late Sunday, a police crime-scene van was parked out front, and technicians carrying brown paper bags went in and out. Police kept a growing crowd of onlookers back. A single red daisy had been placed in front of the lobby door.

Hoffman's family called the news "tragic and sudden." Hoffman is survived by his partner of 15 years, Mimi O'Donnell, and their three children.

"We are devastated by the loss of our beloved Phil and appreciate the outpouring of love and support we have received from everyone," the family said in a statement.

In one of his earliest screen roles, he played a spoiled prep school student in "Scent of a Woman" in 1992. One of his breakthroughs came as a gay member of a porno film crew in "Boogie Nights," one of several movies directed by Paul Thomas Anderson that he would eventually appear in.

He often played comic, slightly off-kilter characters in movies like "Along Came Polly," "The Big Lebowski" and "Almost Famous."

More recently, he was Plutarch Heavensbee in "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" and was reprising that role in the two-part se-

quel, "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay," which is in the works. And in "Moneyball," he played Art Howe, the grumpy manager of the Oakland Athletics who resisted new thinking about baseball talent.

Just weeks ago, Showtime announced Hoffman would star in "Happyish," a new comedy series about a middle-aged man's pursuit of happiness.

He was nominated for the 2013 Academy Award for best supporting actor for his role in "The Master" as the charismatic leader of a religious movement.

The film, inspired in part by the life of Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard, reunited the actor with Anderson.

He also received a 2009 best-supporting nomination for "Doubt," as a priest who comes under suspicion because of his relationship with a boy, and another best-supporting nomination as a CIA officer in "Charlie Wilson's War."

Born in 1967 in Fairport, New York, Hoffman was interested in acting from an early age, mesmerized at 12 by a local production of Arthur Miller's "All My Sons." He studied theater as a teenager with the New York State Summer School of the Arts and the Circle in the Square Theatre. He then majored in drama at New York University. □

Seth Meyers off 'Saturday Night Live' for new job

NEW YORK (AP) — Seth Meyers has departed "Saturday Night Live," just weeks before he begins his new job as host of "Late Night."

Meyers co-anchored "Weekend Update" on the NBC sketch-comedy series for eight seasons and was joined for his farewell newscast by "SNL" alumni Amy Poehler, Andy Samberg, Bill Hader and Fred Armisen. They told Meyers they had come to take him "to the other side."

Meyers called his "SNL" tenure "the job I always wanted." He joined the cast in 2001.

He'll take over at NBC's "Late Night" on Feb. 24.



Seth Meyers seen at the NBC/Universal Winter 2014 TCA on Sunday, January 19, 2014, in Pasadena, Calif.

Associated Press

"SNL" head writer Colin Hanks will replace Meyers at the "Weekend Update"

anchor desk alongside Cecily Strong. He signs on March 1. □

'Ride Along' No. 1 for third week

JESSICA HERNDON

AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — With Super Bowl XLVII weekend in full swing, "Ride Along" remained strong, steering Universal Pictures into the No. 1 slot in a surprising three-week takeover at the box office.

Topping multiplex sales since setting a January debut record when opening over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend with \$48.6 million, the buddy cop comedy, starring Kevin Hart and Ice Cube, made \$12.3 million, as it nears a \$100 million domestic total, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"I don't think anyone would have seen that coming," Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office tracker Rentrak, said of "Ride Along." Despite the looming viewpoint that films with a primarily African-American cast don't do well overseas, the domestic success of "Ride Along" could fuel its popularity overseas.

"Kevin Hart and Ice Cube are great stars and they are international stars at this point.

The movie doing so well here is going to give it that extra push. If the worldwide audience is hearing that 'Ride Along' is the No. 1 movie for the third week, they are going to want to



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Ice Cube, left, and Kevin Hart in a scene from the film, "Ride Along."

see what the fuss is about." Disney's "Frozen," now the fourth highest-grossing domestic animated release ever, is in second place with \$9.3 million. The studio rereleased a singalong version of the film, as the movie's soundtrack remains No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart. The film's signature track "Let It Go," sung by Idina Menzel, is among the top 30 on Billboard's Hot 100. "Frozen" singalong shows, featured in 2,057 theaters out of 2,754, added \$2.2 million, as the film crossed the \$360 million mark domestically.

"Frozen" is a movie that will not quit," says Dergarabedian. "It's been out for 11 weeks and it's still relevant. By adding this sing-along component, they basically assured themselves a No. 2 spot this weekend."

Another family film, Open

Road Films' squirrel comedy "The Nut Job," took the fourth-place slot with \$7.6 million, bringing its domestic total to \$50 million over a three-week span.

Focus Features' chick flick from a male point of view, "That Awkward Moment," starring Zac Efron, Michael B. Jordan and Miles Teller, has taken third place in its opening weekend with \$9 million. "The critics were not kind to this movie and it's sort of a pre-Valentine's Day film that's an antidote to the Super Bowl," Dergarabedian said. "But over what is traditionally not a huge grossing weekend, it did in line with what people expected."

Universal's "Lone Survivor" stands strong in the fifth slot with \$7.2 million, as it notably crosses the \$100 million mark, making this Mark Wahlberg's 7th film to

cross that milestone. Others have included "Planet of the Apes," "Ted," "The Departed," "The Other Guys" and "The Italian Job."

Paramount's resurgence of the film adaptations of Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan series, "Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit," this time starring Chris Pine as the resourceful CIA analyst, came in at No. 6 with \$5.4 million in its third week. The Kate Winslet and Josh Brolin-starring drama "Labor Day," also distributed by Paramount, opened in 7th place with \$5.3 million. Riding the Oscar nominations wave were the No. 8 and 9 films: "American Hustle," leading the Oscar pack with 10 bids, and "The Wolf of Wall Street," which has five nods. David O. Russell's con-artist comedy earned \$4.3 million, while Martin Scorsese's movie gained \$3.6 million.



This Aug. 27, 2013 file photo shows director and actor Woody Allen at the French premiere of "Blue Jasmine," in Paris.

Associated Press

Woody Allen: Farrow claims 'untrue' 'disgraceful'

JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Woody Allen called Dylan Farrow's allegations of child molestation "untrue and disgraceful" a day after Farrow renewed claims dating back to Allen's tempestuous relationship with actress Mia Farrow in the early 1990s. The movie director's publicist Leslee Dart said in an email Sunday that Allen has read Dylan Farrow's open-letter, published online by The New York Times, claiming she was sexually assaulted by her then adoptive father as a 7-year-old.

"Mr. Allen has read the article and found it untrue and disgraceful," said Dart, who said Allen will be responding soon. Dylan Farrow claimed that in 1992 at the family's Connecticut home, Allen led her to a "dim, closet-like attic" and "then he sexually assaulted me." Farrow didn't specify Allen's actions, but described other abusive behavior. Allen was investigated on child molestation claims for the 1992 accusation, but prosecutors elected not to charge him. The handling of the investigation was criticized after Litchfield County state attorney Frank S. Maco said in a press conference that he believed there was "probable cause" to charge Allen but decided against prosecution partly to avoid a traumatic trial for the young girl.

J.K. Rowling says 'Potter' ending may be wrong

LONDON (AP) — Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling is having second thoughts about having ended the series with heroine Hermione Granger paired up romantically with Ron Weasley.

The hugely successful author tells Wonderland magazine she chose the red-haired Ron for Hermione for very personal reasons having little to do with literature. She told the magazine she

"wrote the Hermione/Ron relationship as a form of wish fulfillment" and said the couple might eventually need relationship counseling.

The soon-to-be published interview was reported in The Sunday Times, which also quoted actress Emma Watson, who played Hermione, expressing doubts about the viability of her character's relationship with Ron.

She told the newspaper



British author J.K. Rowling poses for photographers at the Southbank Centre in London, in this file photo dated Thursday, Sept. 27, 2012.

Associated Press

that many fans doubt Ron can make Hermione happy over time.

Many fans had hoped Harry and Hermione would become a couple.

Emilio's Great Race



FRANK BRUNI
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CHAPEL HILL, N.C. - The campaign for student body president at the University of North Carolina here has just begun, and there's nothing unusual in the number of candidates - five - or the fact that two are Morehead-Cain scholars, an elite designation.

But there's a wrinkle that's certain to generate discussion, especially in a state whose politics have taken a profoundly rightward turn. One of the candidates is an undocumented immigrant who readily identifies himself that way. In fact, he's at or near the head of the pack. His name is Emilio Vicente. He's a junior, 22, and a minority three times over: Latino, undocumented and gay. He came to the United States from Guatemala at 6, his mother leading him under barbed wire and into Arizona, as he recalls it. (He remembers the screech of a woman with them whose hair got caught.) And he flourished here, his grades earning him the private scholarship he needed for Chapel Hill, where he's on this committee, that board, a one-man whirlwind of engagement. I hung out with him on Sunday, including at a meeting of his campaign team. They took stock of their efforts to meet the Tuesday deadline for 1,250 petition signatures. Emilio was already above 2,000. The election is Feb. 11, with a runoff, if needed, a week later.

His victory would be a milestone, not just locally but perhaps nationally, and it would be a chance, he told me, "to change the narrative of what it means to be undocumented." It would be a vindication, too, and that's clear from his campaign site. Under the headline "Inspiration," it says, "My parents for their sacrifices."

His dad arrived here illegally in 1992. He and his mom followed in 1997, traveling through Mexico by rail, in a cargo car.

"I'm pretty sure it was a cattle train because I could smell the manure," he said.

From Arizona they made their way to Siler City, N.C., where his father plucked chickens in a big poultry plant. His mother got a job there, too.

"They would come home from work and show me their hands - blistered, pruned," Emilio remembered. "And they said, 'You don't want this.'"

He buckled down to schoolwork, although it was hard, partly because his parents had little education and almost no English. And he stayed out of trouble, careful not to draw any attention to his family.

Things got tougher still. His father, who had taken a new job in a lumber plant, was paralyzed in an accident there. Homebound, dependent, he returned to relatives in Guatemala, Emilio's mother beside him. The choice belonged to Emilio, then 15: Join them or stay in Siler City with an older brother who had managed to get to America.

It was our national anthem Emilio could sing, our president whose name he knew. He thought about the future and about his parents' hands. He stayed. He hasn't seen his parents in seven years because he can't re-enter the country if he leaves. He has no papers, no legal status. If the government didn't typically turn a blind eye to young people like him, he'd be at risk of deportation, but he doesn't really fear it, especially since President Barack Obama in 2012 created renewable two-year reprieves for productive young immigrants without criminal records, enabling them, for example, to be legally employed. Emilio is applying for one.

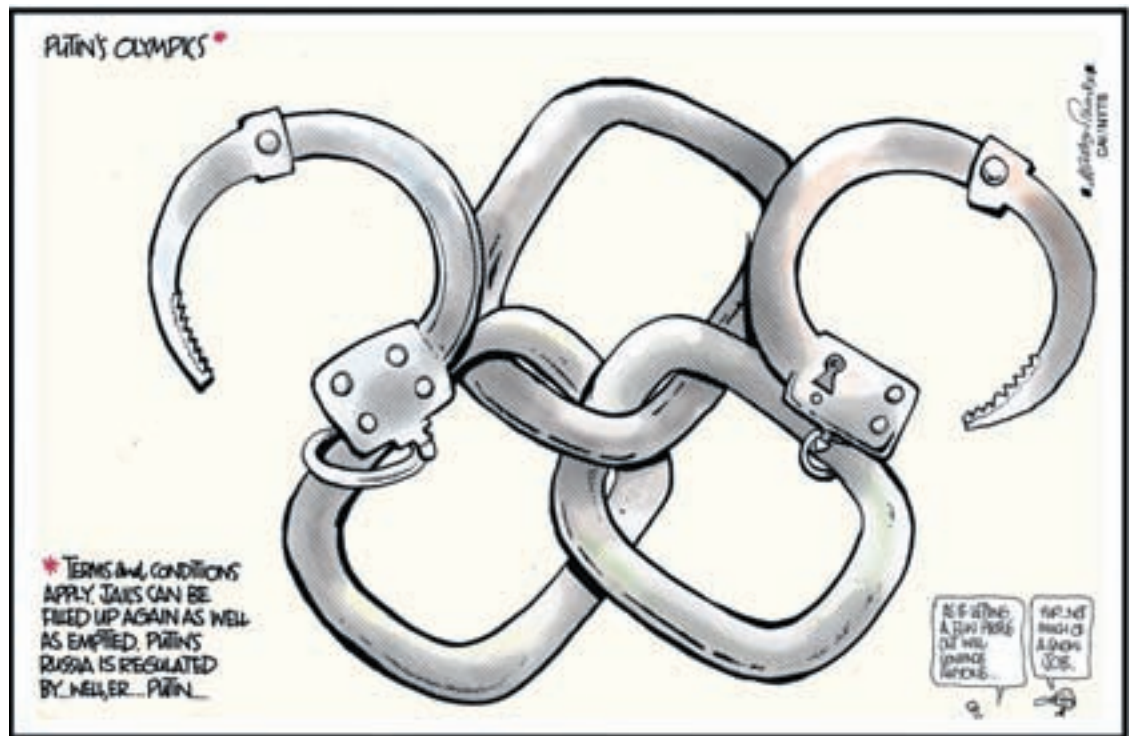
But a change in government could end that program. It doesn't include any durable peace of mind, not the kind offered by the long-stalled Dream Act, which creates a path to citizenship for many immigrants who were tugged here by their parents, are blameless for their illegal crossings, got educations in America, and are eager to lend their skills to this country.

Federal and state laws are a welter of contradictions. As an undocumented immigrant, Emilio can attend Chapel Hill but must be considered a foreigner and pay out-of-state tuition. He's ineligible for state or federal aid. Lucky for him, his private scholarship covers the full cost. His many campus involvements, he said, are his way of saying thank you and giving back.

Republicans in Washington, who have been an obstacle to immigration reform, are about to unveil some new proposals, which may take into account the perverse limbos of young immigrants.

I sure hope so, because if we, as a country, aren't prepared to open our arms and workplaces to strivers like Emilio, who could so easily have sunk into self-pity and had to summon a grace and grit that many of us never manage, then we're not just callous. We're self-defeating. We're stupid.

But while Congress dithers about his degree of welcome in America, students in Chapel Hill are asking a more elegant, enlightened question. Does he maybe represent the very best of us, and should he be their leader? □



Why John Kerry Is Looking Scary



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
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TEL AVIV, Israel - It is pretty clear now that Secretary of State John Kerry will either be Israel's diplomatic salvation or the most dangerous diplomatic fanatic that Israel has ever encountered. But there isn't much room anymore for anything in between. This is one of those rare pay-per-view foreign policy moments. Pull up a chair. You don't see this every day.

In essence what Kerry is daring to test is a question everyone has wanted to avoid: Is the situation between Israelis and Palestinians at five minutes to midnight or five minutes after midnight, or even 1 a.m. (beyond diplomacy)?

That is, has Israel become so much more powerful than its neighbors that a symmetrical negotiation is impossible, especially when the Palestinians do not seem willing or able to mount another intifada that might force Israel to withdraw? Has the neighborhood around Israel become so much more unstable that any Israeli withdrawal from anywhere is unthinkable? Has the number of Israeli Jews now living in East Jerusalem and the West Bank become so much larger - more than 540,000 - that they are immovable? And has the Palestinian rhetoric on the right of return become so deeply embedded in Palestinian politics? So when you add them all up, it becomes a fantasy to expect any Israeli or Palestinian leader to have the strength to make the huge concessions needed for a two-state solution?

President Barack Obama is letting Kerry test all this. Kerry has

done so in a fanatically relentless - I've lost count of his visits here - but highly sophisticated way. After letting the two sides fruitlessly butt heads for six months, he's now planning to present a U.S. framework that will lay out what Washington considers the core concessions that Israelis and Palestinians need to make for a fair, lasting deal.

The "Kerry Plan," likely to be unveiled soon, is expected to call for an end to the conflict and all claims, following a phased Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank (based on the 1967 lines), with unprecedented security arrangements in the strategic Jordan Valley. The Israeli withdrawal will not include certain settlement blocs, but Israel will compensate the Palestinians for them with Israeli territory. It will call for the Palestinians to have a capital in Arab East Jerusalem and for Palestinians to recognize Israel as the nation state of the Jewish people. It will not include any right of return for Palestinian refugees into Israel proper.

Kerry expects and hopes that both Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas will declare that despite their reservations about one or another element in the U.S. framework, they will use it as the basis of further negotiations.

This is where things will get interesting. U.S. and Israeli officials in close contact with Netanyahu describe him as torn, clearly understanding that some kind of two-state solution is necessary for Israel's integrity as a Jewish democratic state, with the healthy ties to Europe and the West that are vital for Israel's economy. But he remains deeply skeptical about Palestinian intentions - or as Netanyahu said here Tuesday: "I do not want a binational state. But we also don't want another state that will start attacking us."

His political base, though, which he nurtured, does not want Netanyahu making a U-turn.

Which is why - although Netan-

yahu has started to prepare the ground here for the U.S. plan - if he proceeds on its basis, even with reservations, his coalition will likely collapse. He will lose a major part of his own Likud Party and all his other right-wing allies. In short, for Netanyahu to move forward, he will have to build a new political base around centrist parties. To do that, Netanyahu would have to become, to some degree, a new leader - overcoming his own innate ambivalence about any deal with the Palestinians to become Israel's most vocal and enthusiastic salesman for a two-state deal, otherwise it would never pass. "Nothing in politics is as risky as a U-turn or as challenging as a successful one," says Gidi Grinstein, the president of the Reut Institute, a leading Israeli strategy group. "It requires a gradual disengagement from one's greatest supporters, who slowly turn into staunchest enemies, while forming a new coalition of backers, made up of former opponents. In a cautious dance of two-steps-forward, one-step-back, U-turning leaders must shift their political center of gravity from the former base to their future platform."

If the Palestinians and Israelis find a way to proceed with the Kerry plan, everything is still possible. Success is hardly assured, but it will prove that it's not midnight yet. But if either or both don't agree, Kerry would have to take his mission to its logical, fanatical conclusion and declare the end of the negotiated two-state solution. (If not, he loses his credibility.)

If and when that happens, Israel, which controls the land, would have to either implement a unilateral withdrawal, live with the morally corrosive and globally isolating implications of a permanent West Bank occupation or design a new framework of one-state-for-two-people.

So that's where we are: Israelis and Palestinians need to understand that Kerry's mission is the last train to a negotiated two-state solution. The next train is the one coming at them. □

A POTATO'S POSTCARD FROM SPAIN

Melissa Clark

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Before I had ever tasted a tortilla Española, the traditional Spanish potato omelet, I couldn't imagine what the fuss was about. What could be so special about a dish made from only eggs, potatoes and onion?

Then I bit into a thick slab of it at a tapas bar, and it all made sense. It wasn't just the eggs, potatoes and onion that gave the tortilla its character. It was the olive oil. Every bite was suffused with the good stuff. The fragrant oil flavored the potatoes and turned the onions soft and sweet.

And then there was the appealing, firm texture. Unlike a French omelet, which is loose and wobbly, or an Italian frittata, which is puffy and custardy, a tortilla is a solid cake with just enough egg to bind the vegetables. I could easily pick it up with my fingers before it disappeared down my throat. A Spanish tortilla is not hard to make at home, and you probably have all the in-

gredients on hand. And you can serve it for dinner, lunch or brunch, either warm or at room temperature. The bottom line: It's a good recipe to add to your repertory.

A potato tortilla is marvelous on its own without any embellishments. But it also goes nicely with a brightly flavored condiment or sauce. A Spanish friend once served me a tortilla with a pungent garlic mayonnaise. I have also had it served with a thick, peppery tomato sauce. In this version, I have paired it with a simple salsalike tomato and pepper salad that complements the soft, rich potatoes. One bite and you'll understand the fuss.

SPANISH TORTILLA WITH TOMATO-PEPPER SALAD

Time: 45 minutes

Yield: 4 servings

5 medium Yukon Gold potatoes (1 1/4 pounds)

1 white onion, diced

1 3/4 teaspoons kosher salt, more as needed

3/4 teaspoon black pep-

per, more as needed
About 1 1/2 cups extra-virgin olive oil

6 large eggs

3/4 cup halved cherry or grape tomatoes

1/3 cup diced Italian frying pepper (also called Cubanelle), or green bell pepper

1/4 cup sliced scallion, white and green parts

1 garlic clove, minced

1. Peel potatoes and halve them lengthwise. Thinly slice them crosswise. Pat potatoes dry with a dish towel or paper towels. Toss potatoes with onion, 1 1/2 teaspoons salt and 1/2 teaspoon black pepper.

2. Place a large skillet over medium heat and warm through. Add oil, then add potatoes and onion. (You need enough oil to almost cover the potatoes, so adjust amount according to your pan size.) Cook until potatoes are just tender enough to cut with a fork, 10 to 15 minutes, adjusting heat so vegetables do not burn or take on too much color. Using a slotted spoon, transfer potatoes



A Spanish potato omelet garnished with tomato, peppers and scallions.

(Andrew Scrivani/The New York Times)

and onions to a colander set over a bowl and let

cool. Reserve 3 1/2 tablespoons oil from the skillet to use for finishing the recipe. (You can reuse the rest of the remaining oil, too; store it in the refrigerator.)

3. Heat oven to 375 degrees. Heat 2 tablespoons of the reserved oil in an oven-safe 8- to 9-inch non-stick skillet over medium-low heat. In a large bowl, whisk eggs and season with 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Stir potato mixture into eggs. Pour mixture into pan and use a spatula to flatten out surface. Cook, using spatula to occasionally loosen eggs from edges of pan, until top is almost set, with just a small amount of liquid remaining, about 5 minutes. Transfer to oven and cook until top is just set, 5 to 7 minutes longer. Slide tortilla onto a plate.

4. In a large bowl, toss together tomato, pepper, scallion, garlic and remaining 1 1/2 tablespoons oil. Season with salt and pepper. Top tortilla with salad and serve warm or at room temperature. □



A Spanish potato omelet is solid enough to be eaten with fingers, and can be served for dinner, lunch or brunch.

(Andrew Scrivani/The New York Times)